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THE NEWSPAPER FOR CHATHAM, GILLINGHAM, ROCHESTER, STROOD, RAINHAM & DISTRICT

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Issue No 49
Available from Wednesday,
August 13, 2008

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GOOD LUCK SPITFIRES

As Kent prepare for their first Lord's final in 11 years club captain Rob Key talks about just how important the game is for the county – See sport



WE WILL BE BACK, VOW PROTESTORS

WHAT'S ON & WATCH

yourkenttv.co.uk



Take a tour around the Camp for Climate Action. Search 'camp'

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ISSN 1753-119-5



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PICTURE: BOB RUPO

THE FORCE OF PROTEST

Activists continued with their plans to shut down Kingsnorth power station despite the massive police presence employed to stop them on Saturday, the culmination of a week-long protest. About 50 people marched to the plant on the Hoo peninsula under police escort, while others made failed attempts to storm the site across fields or on a flotilla of rafts on the River Medway. HOO'S WEEK IN THE NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT: FULL STORY AND PICTURES ON PAGES 4 AND 5

BY SIMON ROBINSON

ECO-CAMPAIGNERS have vowed to continue their fight against Kingsnorth's coal-fired future – promising further attacks on the Hoo power plant.

The threat comes just days after the Camp for Climate Action wound down, with officials for the anti-fossil fuel movement pledging: "We'll be back".

Hundreds of mock rail tickets for a "return to Kingsnorth" were handed out by protestors at the end of the camp's ten-day stay at a farm in Dux Court Road on the Hoo peninsula.

Campers also signed pledges to take action against E.ON until the firm abandons plans for new coal-fired plants at Kingsnorth.

Protestor Josh Tatenum said: "There's no such thing as clean coal. We don't need E.ON to keep the lights on by burning the planet. We need an investment in renewables to meet our energy needs and keep the planet habitable."

"This was just the beginning. If Kingsnorth gets the go-ahead, people across the UK are committed to stopping it from being built."

The camp culminated in a three-pronged attack on the power station on Saturday afternoon. Hundreds of protestors marched on the main gates for a rally, while a small group succeeded in breaching the perimeter fence and inner electric fence.

A third group launched a 20-strong flotilla of boats and rafts on the River Medway, blocking the coal-loading jetty.

The cost of policing the climate camp is estimated to be several million pounds, which could rise with future protests planned.

Kent Police Authority has announced it will be applying to the Home Office to meet the costs of the security operation.

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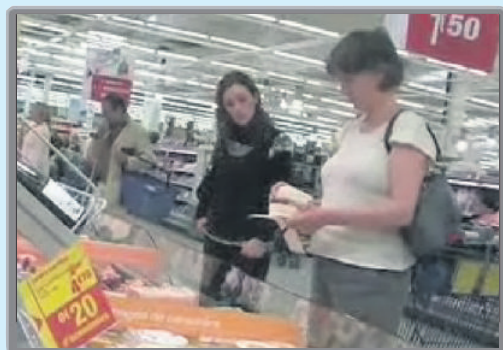
TOP TV CLIPS



1 Not a helicopter, but the new widescreen Astra. Steve Loader explains. See the motors channel @ yourkenttv.co.uk



2 Another chance to see David Pritchard's day training with the Gills. See the sports channel @ yourkenttv.co.uk



3 Can you still bag a bargain in France? Julie Maddocks reports. See the business channel @ yourkenttv.co.uk

SEE OUR SISTER PAPERS KENT ON SUNDAY AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT

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Swindler was caught out by a Christmas card greeting

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

A SCHEMING benefit cheat who swindled thousands of pounds from council coffers was finally brought to justice after Christmas cards exposed her scam.

Maxine Hill, formerly Adley, claimed to be single and on a low income to rake in more than £18,625 of handouts between 2001 and 2006 – despite moving in with her partner in 2002.

Hill's scam was rumbled in December 2005 when Christmas cards addressed to "Dave and Max – a lovely couple" were seen by Medway council verification officers at her home in Lobelia Close, Gillingham.

An in-depth investigation into Hill found she had moved in with David Hill in October 2002 and the couple had married two years later.

Hill pleaded guilty to fraud and was sentenced to community service by Maidstone Crown Court on Monday.

Prosecuting, Tom Dunn said: "Each of the claims she submitted was based on single status and low income. In fact, these declarations were not true."

Defending, Jonathan Turner said Hill's marriage was marred by incidents of domestic violence, police intervention and court orders preventing Mr Hill from returning to the marital home.

The on-off nature of their relationship led to periods where her claims were valid.

However, there were three periods during which the benefits should have been stopped – equating to an

YOUR MONEY - YOUR LOSS!
CRACKDOWN ON THE BENEFIT CHEATS

overpayment of £7,000.

Mr Turner said: "The relationship was tempestuous. When the couple were living together happily, the claims were never cancelled."

Sentencing Recorder Ian Glen QC said: "This is obviously a very serious matter. Several thousand pounds have been taken over a substantial period of time from public funds."

"I don't think you are a villain. You have worked in a number of jobs in the past and bearing in mind the problems in your relationship, I think it would be wrong for me to impose a prison sentence."

"I am going to give you a chance and I hope that I am right. I order you to carry out a 12-month community order with the requirement to undertake 150 hours of unpaid work, half the maximum I could give you."

"I think that's enough to remind you of what you've done."

Hill was also ordered to pay £500 in costs.

The exposure of her scam reaffirms Yourmedway's crackdown on benefit cheats, who take money from your pockets which could go to the community.

As part of our Your Money – Your Loss drive we have teamed up with Medway council to expose and prosecute the con-artists who plague society by taking money they do not deserve.

• If you know of a benefit cheat, you can call Medway council's investigations team on 01634 332305 or leave a message on the fraud hotline on 0800 083 7049.

yourmedway
NEWS IN BRIEF

Don't miss our Lisa's Olympics diary blog

RUNNER Lisa Dobrisky is writing an exclusive daily diary for KOS Media during the Olympic Games.

The 24-year-old, from Ashford, is competing in the 1500m at Beijing, where she will look to add to the Commonwealth Games title she won in Melbourne two years ago.

Turn to page 43 to read her thoughts on the first few days in Team GB's training camp in Macau. For the latest entries, log on to www.kentnews.co.uk <http://www.kentnews.co.uk> throughout the Games.

Patients evacuated during clinic blaze

PATIENTS were evacuated after a fire broke out in an antenatal clinic at Medway Maritime Hospital.

Fire crews were called to the hospital in Gillingham on Sunday night and brought the blaze under control.

No one was injured, but patients had to be evacuated due to smoke filling Trafalgar Ward and staff changing rooms in the Oliver Fisher Unit.

The antenatal and audiology departments were closed while the cause of the fire was investigated.

Fantasy made flesh

BEST-SELLING author Chris McNish will talk at a creative writing workshop being held in Rochester today.

The Doomspell and Silver trilogies author will explain what it takes to make a fantasy world seem real and compelling.

Creating Fantasy Worlds is aimed at children aged nine and upwards.

It is being held at Thomas Aveling Community Library in Arethusa Road from 3.45pm to 5pm.

To book a place, call 01634 338728.

Walking on hot coals

FUND-RAISERS are being invited to walk across red-hot coals in aid of the Friends of the Wisdom Hospice.

The event takes place at BAE Systems Sports and Social Club in Rochester on Friday, October 31, and is led by a team of fire-walking experts.

Entrants must raise a minimum of £100 to take part. For more information visit www.friendsofthewisdomhospice.org.uk.

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Mason stays despite 'contractor' debacle

Vote for boss to vacate job are defeated

BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

UNDER fire Conservative councillor Tom Mason has retained his place on Medway council's cabinet after a motion calling for his resignation was defeated.

In recent weeks members of Medway's Liberal Democrat and Labour groups had demanded Mr Mason stand down after attacking his "woeful" performance as housing boss.

Both parties cited a damning report which found the housing service overpaid contractors £155,000 and suffered from "a lack of sufficient management controls".

The error-prone service was also rated as the worst in the country by the Audit Commission, which gave Medway a damning no-star assessment – the lowest grade possible.

However, at a full council meeting on Thursday July 31, the motion put forward by deputy Labour party leader Glyn Griffiths was defeated by a margin of 26 against to 20 in favour.

Speaking at the meeting, Mr Mason said:



WAR OF WORDS: Labour's Glyn Griffiths (left) said Cllr Mason (right) should be held accountable as head of department

"The opposition just will not accept the facts as outlined by the monitoring officer in her report of the housing service. Her conclusions were that circumstance arose as a result of the lack of sufficient management controls.

"There were indeed problems within the housing revenue department, not least the departure of three housing managers within a short space of time and a restructuring undertaken by the then assistant director, which may not have been well received by staff.

"Does Cllr Griffiths really believe that I, as the portfolio holder, should have inspected every invoice, every payment to contractors, in fact micro-manage the whole department?"

In a letter to Yourmedway prior to the council



meeting, Cllr Griffiths wrote: "The real question is not about the length of service or personality.

"It is simply this; should the portfolio holder, who has ultimate responsibility for his department and is paid handsomely for it, take responsibility when things go drastically wrong?"

The Lib Dems called for Mr Mason's resignation in the fall-out of the six-figure overpayment scandal – of which the council is unable to recover a single penny.

Group leader Geoff Juby said: "There has been a woeful lack of political leadership on this issue. Cllr Mason should resign. How can the people of Medway trust the council on housing issues after this report showed how the basics were not done properly?"

Safety breach lead to death of scaffolder

A CONSTRUCTION firm has been hit with a £70,000 fine after a health and safety breach led to a man's death on the Isle of Grain.

Carillion JM Ltd, formerly known as Mowlem, was also ordered to pay £24,000 in costs following the hearing at Maidstone Crown Court on Wednesday, July 30.

The Wolverhampton-based firm pleaded guilty to negligence.

The court heard how worker Alexander McCully, from Scotland, died after falling 17 metres at the Air BP Ltd site in December 2003, where he was building large steel oil storage tanks.

A Health and Safety Executive investigation found Mr McCully fell from a platform placed against the outside of a tank, from where he was rebuilding an internal scaffold platform.

As he climbed onto the incomplete platform on the inside of the tank, one of three boards snapped he was standing on snapped and he fell to the floor below.

He died as a result of his injuries.

Major weakness

The HSE said Mr McCully was following company policy by wearing a fall arrest harness, but there was no suitable anchor point for him to attach his lanyard to the rim of the tank.

For the harnesses to be used effectively there needed to be about 50 anchor points around the rim of the storage tank.

The company's procedures did not require these to be fitted prior to the crane lift starting, and this was a major weakness in their system of work.

HSE inspector John Underwood said: "I hope this case and the fine imposed will serve as a lesson to scaffold builders and the tank building industry and will make sure others avoid a similar fate."

Carillion JM Ltd was prosecuted for breaching section two of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, which is punishable with an unlimited fine.

Email yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk

Super curry chef ready for heat of battle

TOP chef Abul Monsur is jetting out to Bangladesh later this year to take part in an international curry cooking competition.

Mr Monsur, master chef for the Taj Cuisine in Walder-slade, has been included as one of six British 'super curry chefs' to take part in the fifth international British Fusion Food Festival, taking place in November.



CHEF: Monsur

The reigning Medway Curry Chef of the Year said: "I'm very excited to be taking part. I have cooked in various competitions, but a showcase event like this will be a real challenge."

Festival director Syed Belal Ahmed said: "For many years British food has been the butt of too many jokes.

"But, in recent years there has been a renaissance in the British food industry.

"There has been a tremendous growth of the multi-billion pound curry industry which has restaurants and takeaways in every major British city and town."

Abused runner fails in valiant attempt to finish ultramarathon

TOWER crane driver Michael Brown was forced to withdraw from the UK's first ultramarathon because his body was freezing up.

The 44-year-old from Halling managed to cover 70 miles of the gruelling 100-mile course in the Lake District in 26 hours last weekend.

But bad weather during the most exposed part of the race caused his body temperature to drop so much that medical experts advised him not to continue.

Michael, who was running to raise awareness of abused children and funds for the NSPCC, said: "I covered 60 miles in 19 hours which was good, but then it took me another seven hours to cover another 10.

"I was going down badly and I came down out of the mountains to

get medical help. This came in the form of hot water bottles in a sleeping bag, but I was told not to continue."

Just seven of the 59 competitors completed the course in the allotted time of 40 hours – and they were semi-professional runners in their 20s.

Twenty-four runners pulled out before the start because of the weather and a further 20 withdrew because of exhaustion, hypothermia or injury during the competition.

Michael, who chose to support the NSPCC as he himself suffered abuse as a child, said: "I am pleased with my performance.

"The fact that I drove myself to the point of death has me assured that I could not have done any more under the circumstances."



RUNNER: Michael Brown

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Biofuel depot obstructed to spread the message

CLIMATE camp activists chained themselves to the biggest agro-fuel depot in the South last week – stopping lorries from leaving or entering the site.

Protestors took over Vopak's Thurrock site on Thursday morning, setting up a human blockade at the firm's gates and unfurling a 35 foot banner from one of the site's oil containers. The eco-campaigners said their demonstration stopped one truck leaving the site every 90 seconds.

Activist Dean Rivers, who chained himself to the roof of the depot, said: "Companies like Greenergy and Tesco, who use Thurrock, are profiteering out of the rush to biofuels causing food price rises, hunger for millions, ecosystem destruction and accelerated climate change.

"These are crimes against humanity and the Earth from which we may never recover."

Community patience and co-operation appreciated

POLICE have thanked Hoo residents for their patience and support throughout the ten-day climate camp.

Assistant Chief Constable Gary Beautridge paid tribute to those living on the Hoo peninsula, whose routines were affected during the demonstration.

He said: "Residents have had to deal with upheaval while more than 1,000 protestors and 1,400 police officers interrupted community life. There was a considerable amount of activity by the police, including our air support, and by the protestors and media. We are grateful to the community for their patience and co-operation.

"We are also appreciative of the letters thanking police for their assistance during the climate camp. One couple living in Hoo wrote to thank us for helping their wedding take place with little disruption.

"We have also received positive feedback from several people directly involved with the protest, who stayed at the camp."



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Julie Maddocks reports from the camp. Search 'camp'

Campers fired up for

DETERMINED climate campaigners have hailed their attack on Kingsnorth power station as a success – after "disrupting" the Hoo plant's normal operation.

The sea-borne attack was the first to strike on Saturday, with more than 20 homemade crafts – dubbed the Great Rebel Raft Regatta – making their way up the River Medway and converging on Kingsnorth's coal-loading jetty.

They defied an order from Medway Port Authority banning the water-borne protest, enduring stormy weather conditions.

Three members of the regatta clambered

WORDS BY SIMON ROBINSON
PICTURES BY IGOR KUPCO

aboard the power station's water inlet tunnel while other water warriors hung a banner proclaiming 'CO2AL: Starter Gun for Climate Chaos' from Darnet Fort on an island directly opposite the station.

The sea strike was followed by a march from the Camp for Climate Action's base at Dux Court Road to Kingsnorth's gates.

More than 500 protestors arrived at the plant's entrance at 1pm, after which a number spoke about the need to abandon plans to

build coal-fired power plants. A breakaway group approached from neighbouring fields with the intention of shutting the plant down, but enjoyed limited success.

A number of protestors managed to breach the security fences, using a ladder to scale both the outer line and inner electric barrier.

Camp spokesman Emily Davies said the day's activities sent a powerful message to both E.ON and the Government: "It shows how serious we are about stopping climate change that people from all walks of life were prepared, despite intimidatory policing, to take direct action to disrupt E.ON."

Fellow protestor May MacDonald praised the camp, saying: "What we've seen here is the

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Mass arrests as police respond to mass action

ONE hundred eco-activists were arrested during the climate camp protest, of which 46 were charged.

Twenty two of the campaigners received cautions, three were bound over and the rest were released without charge.

Police chiefs defended their officers against accusations of being unnecessarily heavy-handed throughout the demonstration.

More than 50 arrests were made during Saturday's day of mass action.

Speaking after the protest Assistant Chief Constable Gary Beurbridge said: "While most people involved in the action were sensible and responsible, a small group was clearly intent on breaking into the power station."

"Our policy was that our policing was proportionate to the need."

"Therefore, when people refused to comply with police requests or continued to try to breach the power station fences, our tactics had to respond."

"The decision was made to deploy specialist units including dogs and horses. Because of the level of resistance, officers were authorised to use batons."



"There are strict legal standards for their use and we gave clear warnings when any specialist team was deployed, which is our policy."

"Those intent on breaking the law had the choice to stop."

"I know there has been comment to the media on the level of this policing and the action of individual officers."

"We will investigate all complaints and will also review footage that has been drawn to our attention. If we find evidence that anyone has acted inappropriately or failed to demonstrate the standards we expect, we will address this."

action

coming together of local people, academics, kids, seasoned activists, MPs, grannies, students and more in a new social movement."

Assistant Chief Constable Gary Beurbridge said: "From the start I have stressed that our aim has been to police a lawful and peaceful protest. It is clear the majority of climate camp protesters shared this aim."

"Policing of the march was predominantly low key. We thank those taking part for their cooperation and responsible attitude in the nature of their protest."

"However, while the majority of people were law abiding, it was clear from early on that a comparatively small number were intent on causing trouble."

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Protesters and E.ON talk about the Camp. Search 'camp'.

Miniature protest ends peacefully

A PLASTIC protest broke out at Legoland, with a tiny banner unfurled down the scale replica of Kingsnorth power station.

The miniature demonstration was held at the E.ON sponsored Windsor attraction on Thursday morning.

Six one-inch campaigners appeared at the top of the construction at around 11am, before unveiling a banner reading Stop Climate Change down the length of the tower.

Lego police quickly arrived at the foot of the tower, supported by a Lego police helicopter.



A climate camp spokesman said: "Neither the campaigners nor the police would comment, because they're made of Lego and therefore can't talk."



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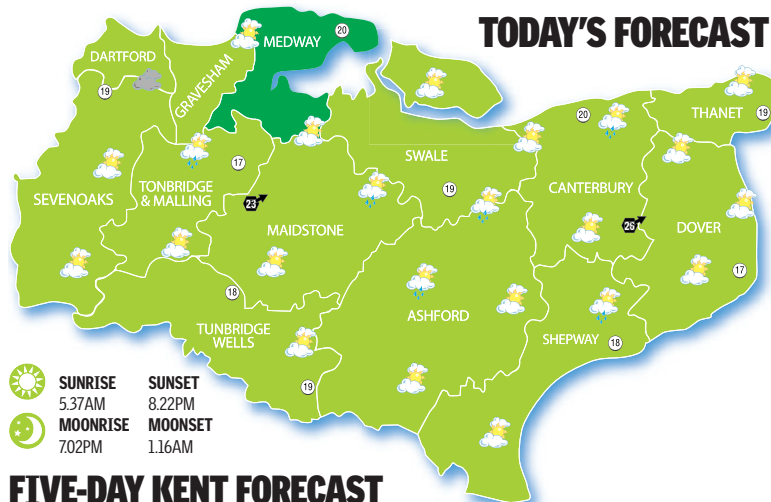
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SUNSET 8:22PM
MOONRISE 7:02PM
MOONSET 1:16AM

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	20°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	20°C	Gravesend	21°C	20°C	20°C	20°C	21°C
Canterbury	20°C	19°C	19°C	18°C	20°C	Maidstone	21°C	20°C	20°C	20°C	21°C
Chatham	19°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	Ramsgate	20°C	19°C	19°C	18°C	20°C
Dartford	21°C	20°C	20°C	20°C	21°C	Rochester	19°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	19°C
Dover	18°C	16°C	18°C	17°C	18°C	Sevenoaks	18°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	19°C
Faversham	19°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	Sittingbourne	19°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	19°C
Folkestone	18°C	16°C	18°C	17°C	18°C	Tonbridge	20°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	20°C
Gillingham	19°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	Tun Wells	20°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	20°C

TODAY'S FORECAST



WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	12:05pm	5.2m
	Sunday	12:51pm	5.5m
Dover	Saturday	10:36am	5.8m
	Sunday	11:13am	6.1m
Dungeness	Saturday	10:21am	6.4m
	Sunday	11:07am	6.8m
Ramsgate	Saturday	11:06am	4.4m
	Sunday	11:43am	4.6m
Sheerness	Saturday	11:54am	5.0m
	Sunday	12:40pm	5.3m
Whitstable	Saturday	11:53am	4.8m
	Sunday	12:40pm	5.0m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	19°C	Madrid	31°C
Athens	30°C	New York	26°C
Barcelona	30°C	Paris	22°C
Beijing	26°C	Rome	29°C
Bombay	26°C	Sydney	13°C
Cape Town	22°C	Tenerife	26°C
Cardiff	17°C	Tokyo	30°C
Gibraltar	30°C	Vancouver	20°C
Hong Kong	25°C	Warsaw	23°C
Las Palmas	26°C	Wellington	11°C

People using or dealing drugs



YOUR SAY: Police polled shoppers in Chatham last week

Public put drugs top in crime vote

BY SARAH STEWART

PEOPLE using or dealing in drugs topped a poll of anti-social behaviour concerns among residents in Chatham, it has been revealed.

Kent Police Authority, currently on a tour of the county, polled 350 shoppers in Chatham town centre last week.

Ann Barnes, chair of the Kent Police Authority, said: "Last year we found that anti-social behaviour was the biggest concern."

"Now we're digging deeper. It's interesting to see that drugs is the top issue. It is important that people have their say."

Shoppers were asked to cast their vote against five of the top anti-social behaviour issues.

The second biggest fear was drunken behaviour in public, the third was teenagers loitering, fourth was vandalism, graffiti or deliberate damage, and the issue of least concern was rubbish lying around.

The results of this poll will be used to inform future policing plans and investments.

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QUESTION & ANSWER

ANDY GARLAND



Q How did you get into DJ-ing?

A Through an old friend whose dad ran a venue called the Cellar Club in my home town in Devon. Originally they had a jukebox but in 1980 or '81 they brought in a disco and when the club was closed we used to sneak down there and get the lighting rig going and play tunes when no one was around.

Two Tone was really big then and we used to play Madness, The Selecter, The Beat, Bodysnatchers and stuff like that...

Q Do you think you are lucky to be doing what you do?

A Luck certainly played a part but there was also a lot of hard graft too. When I first started I was doing a Saturday sports show on hospital radio.

I also used to do DJ-ing on a Friday night then get up at 7am to do a delivery round for the local butcher, go and do a couple of hours as a lifeguard before driving 35 miles to the hospital to do my afternoon show.

Then I'd drive all the way back home before setting off to my next gig in the evening. I'd get back from that at about 3am absolutely shattered ready to do an early lifeguard shift the next day. I'd then drive 40 miles down to BBC Radio Devon to take part in their youth show, all unpaid of course, before getting home at about 2am the next day... everyone knew not to call me on a Monday morning!

Having said that it's a buzz when the red light comes on, and don't let anyone tell you

talking and playing music for a living is a bad job – they'd be fibbing. Mind you my mum still thinks I'm going to get a proper job one day!

Q What would you be doing with your life if not this?

A I'd probably just be finishing a glorious professional football career with Manchester United and England, and be considering a move into management.

Q Where do you see yourself in five years time?

A Happy, most importantly, and living in Kent with my family. From a work point of view we're encouraged to learn new skills at the BBC, so perhaps there's a chance to do some camera work for TV.

Q Do you have any favourite parts of Kent?

A I was a student in Canterbury so I'll always have a soft spot for the cathedral city and in particular the New Inn on Havelock Street. Joss Bay on the coast is gorgeous, I can easily while away the hours browsing in Baggins bookshop in Rochester and finally I think Chartwell just outside Westerham has a very special atmosphere.

Q How much preparation goes into an average show?

A There's an old rule in radio that suggests for every minute you're on the air you should spend two minutes preparing... it's not

a bad bit of advice. On the Big Drive Home I'm in at 11am and on air at 4pm, and very often could do with another hour or two! There's even more preparation for an outside broadcast or special event.

Q What is your greatest achievement?

A From a work point of view, I think getting my masters degree in media management while holding down a full time presenting job took a great deal of discipline and endeavour. Although I'm glad I did it I wouldn't want to do it again – and if you're thinking of doing something similar you need very understanding friends and family.

Q What are your hobbies and interests?

A Surfing is up there at number one, although I don't have much chance to get in the water these days I really enjoy it when I do... when there's six feet of water bearing down on you, it focuses the mind quite quickly. I'm still attempting to play football at my ripe old age, and you can find me driving and tinkering with my Morris Minor (Just until I get my Jensen interceptor). To relax I get down on my allotment and waste time nattering to people when I should be digging or weeding.

Q What five words sum you up?

A Creative, enthusiastic, passionate, pragmatic and green-fingered!

QA The BBC Radio Kent DJ talks to **Tom Betts** about his luck and hard work securing such a job on the airwaves, his mum's hopes for his career, and why surfing the waves is his perfect way to unwind.

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EDITOR'S CHOICE

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Award-winning reporter **Jamie McGinnes** from our sister paper Kent on Sunday exclusively reports from Helmand Province in Afghanistan how troops from Kent are helping to defeat the Taliban fighters...

Insurgents are feeling the full force of Army

THE war against the Taliban in Helmand Province is being won, according to the Army.

The insurgents' switch to using suicide bombers and improvised explosive devices, rather than conventional fighting, shows they are losing, according to a senior source at 16 Air Assault Brigade.

And, speaking from the headquarters of the 5,000-strong force in Lashkar Gah, the officer revealed how the Army was trying to tackle the growth of opium poppies in Helmand, a great many of which are turned into heroin that reaches Britain's streets.

"We have progressed immensely in a two-year period," the source said.

"The key centres of population are broadly secure and so the people can live a normal life, which means the economy can regenerate, which of course raises the standard of living, which keeps people on the right side."

The officer said the Canterbury-based Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (5 Scots) had done a "remarkable job" in improving security in the key town of Musa Qala.

And a huge operation involving 'A' Company of 5 Scots in Garmshir, alongside 2,000 US Marines, had pushed the Taliban out of the area.

The local town of Darvisham is now flourishing again, with the hospital and more than 100 shops re-opening and families returning.

The deaths of key enemy commanders has also helped.

"One of the key reasons the insurgency has changed so much is that the command structure has been shattered," the officer said.

"You've only got to look at Mullah Dadullah Lang, who was a key commander, who was killed some time last year, and more recently Sadiquallah and a couple of others who have



OUTPOST: Captain Stevie Rae explains how life in Afghanistan has changed over the past two years to Jamie McGinnes

been killed in Helmand. You take the leader and the flock is questioning why it's there and what it's doing."

And the officer said the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan, which includes British troops, was not ignoring the thriving opium poppy industry.

An airfield is being repaired in the hope that a new industrial area will flourish and allow farmers to grow alternative crops.

"This is a hugely fertile valley. It's always been the bread basket of Afghanistan."

"If they've got the processing plant and the means to get it out then actually it becomes economically viable for a farmer to grow a

whole lot of fruit, which means he doesn't have to grow opium in the long term."

The Army is also trying to educate and persuade farmers not to grow opium, while resorting to "targeted eradication" in some areas.

But the officer said: "It's not something we're going to get right this year or next year. You can't give someone an alternative livelihood tonight."

Lieutenant Colonel David Reynolds, spokesman for Task Force Helmand, said: "We shall continue our commitment to this country until the job is done."

Defence Secretary Des Browne was in Helmand Province this week.

He was unavailable for interview.

'Jimmy' pays the ultimate sacrifice in war on Taliban

WHEN soldiers from the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (5 Scots) were sent to the relatively isolated Forward Operating Base Delhi, in southern Helmand Province, the outlook was bleak.

Almost immediately after travelling to Afghanistan from Howe Barracks, Canterbury, in March, around 120 troops were straight into the action at the fortified outpost in Garmshir, near the small town of Darvisham.

"When 'A' Company arrived into FOB Delhi, the frontline was 200m away and they were fighting for the first two months - intense fighting," said Captain Stevie Rae, spokesman for 5 Scots.

"Now, with the assistance of the Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), they've been able to push the Taliban south and the local community of Darvisham are back into the town again. The businesses have opened, shops are trading, people are back into their houses and farmers are back in the fields."

Around 550 soldiers from 5 Scots were sent to Afghanistan in March. As part of Battle Group North West, they are spread around an area covering 100,000sq miles, where 100,000 people live.

But the tour of Helmand has not been without setbacks.

At the end of June, Lance Corporal James 'Jimmy' Johnson, 31 (pictured), who grew up in Chatham, was killed by an anti-personnel mine while part of a vehicle checkpoint patrol operating in the Lashkar Gar area.

And the battalion's commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel David Richmond, was shot in the leg during a firefight near Musa Qala. He was the most senior British casualty since the 2001 invasion.

Colleagues at the camp in Afghanistan this week paid tribute to Lance Corporal Johnson, who was a sniper with 'B' Company of the Argylls.

Sergeant Scott McFadden, 27, said: "Jimmy in work was very quiet, but very knowledgeable. He was a very good soldier. Out of work he was a party animal."

The Argylls are to return to Canterbury in September.



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Casual but smart way to combat hospital germs

DOCTORS have been told to ditch traditional long-sleeved white coats, shirts and ties for a dress code to help infection control.

The rules have sparked controversy among the county's consultants, with some questioning the scientific evidence behind the move.

There are also concerns some patients may think they have gone through their hospital stay without seeing a "proper" doctor.

Conventional garb of tailored suits, long sleeved-shirts and turnover cuffs, ties bearing university, medical school or Royal College insignia, wristwatches and a pen in the top pocket of the jacket is now banned and could constitute a disciplinary offence in some hospitals.

"Bare below the elbows" is now in vogue, including no watch, so hands can be properly washed.

Doctors have also been told not to wear ties, because they are rarely washed and have been shown to harbour germs, although bow ties are allowed under the NHS-wide directive from the Department of Health.

East Kent Hospitals University

■ BY JENNA PUDELEK

NHS Trust began enforcing the new uniform policy in July.

Dr John Sewell, a consultant physician at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford, said it was important for the public to be made aware of the change and that it was being introduced to highlight the commitment to tackling infection and improving hygiene.

"Patients may be disconcerted when they see an open neck and short sleeves and may think it is casual or even disrespectful," he said.

"It is useful to highlight the fact that consultants are changing what they wear so people know it is not dressing down, it is part of infection control. Some may disagree, but the general feeling is it reminds everyone to wash their hands."

He said in some specialties consultants feel it could be seen as disrespectful to impart bad or upsetting news to patients and loved ones while so casually dressed. Dr Sewell welcomed KOS



Media's successful hand hygiene campaign, which has emphasised the need for patients and visitors to wash their hands with soap and water and alcohol in hospitals and other healthcare centres around the county.

An alternative to the new dress code could be that all staff wear scrubs as they do in most other European countries. Perhaps in different colours to identify doctors' specialities, it has been suggested.

Dr Sewell said: "Most hospitals have so few changing rooms there would be a queue to get in and out, so it is just not practical and the laundries are not geared up for it yet."

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust and Medway NHS Foundation Trust confirmed the dress code is now in force.

How KCC lost £1 million by agreeing to burn rubbish

A DECISION made a decade ago by Kent County Council is costing the authority almost £1 million a year profit, a council chief admitted this week.

By signing an agreement in the mid-90s to burn waste, the council has missed out on the profits from recycling.

"Green gold" has become an important source of revenue for councils, with cash for such things as cardboard, newspapers and plastic bottles used to fund public services.

The decision to take on a contract with an incinerator means KCC has missed out on much of this potential windfall.

The soaring price of recycled materials has risen so sharply that less than halfway into a 25 year deal with a private company specialising in incineration KCC is trying to renegotiate.

"At the time it looked a good deal," said Keith Ferrin the council's cabinet member for environmental and waste services. "Ten years later I would say never again. If I could get out of the long term contract I have inherited I would do that. Over the course of a year we could make just under £1 million profit."

The agreement was for a private contractor to incinerate 320,000 tonnes of waste annually. It was reached before the incinerator had even been built so it had to be for 25 years.

But few forecast the huge growth in the re-use of material that had been classed as rubbish in the mid-nineties.

Now much of the rubbish is too valuable to burn and much of the plastic the council formerly had removed is requested by companies in exchange for cash.

Serious price increases in such substances as copper – 15 times more valuable than it was six years ago – have helped spur on the recycling boom which has become more important to businesses than simply saving the planet.

Farmers are waiting to whet London's appetite

A BID to get more food produced by the county's farmers onto the dinner tables of London has been launched.

Damian Collins, the Conservative prospective parliamentary candidate for Folkestone and Hythe, is spearheading the move.

He is calling on advisors to London Mayor Boris Johnson and his recently appointed chair of London food, Rosie Boycott, to rec-

ommend local produce. A meeting was held at a farm in Aldington, near Ashford, last week to highlight the move which is part of the London Food Strategy – a proposal launched by former mayor Ken Livingstone to help farmers.

It calls for country products to be on sale in greater amounts at the capital's wholesale markets – mainly patronised by restaurants.

Mr Collins contacted the Lon-

don Assembly member for Bexley and Bromley, James Cleverly, who also attended the meeting.

Mr Collins said: "London has always been a big market for Kent food, but I would like to see more help for local producers in London. Mr Cleverly has an important position within the government of London and we want to impress upon him how supplying more top quality, fresh

Kent food into London will be good for our farmers, and good for London customers as well.

"Many local farmers were interested in Ken Livingstone's original proposal to create a London Food Strategy, but frustrated that little was done to make it easier for farmers and producers in the counties around London to sell their food into the capital – one of the stated aims of the strategy."

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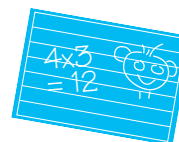
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CASE STUDY: LAST-MINUTE APPLICATION

LUCY Hall, who has just completed the first year of her creative events course at the University of Kent, had to apply to study through clearing after making a late decision to study for a degree.

She said she felt the UCAS website was helpful and told her what she needed to do and how to complete an application.

The 19-year-old said: "I believe Kent saw my potential, even though my A-levels



were slightly lower than expected."

"If you don't get the grades, or if you decide to apply last-minute, you can still succeed," she added.

"Everyone I spoke to during clearing was helpful and efficient."

"It wasn't stressful at all. But I would recommend being well prepared for the day clearing starts (on Thursday), and being persistent does you no harm either."

University's just a phone call away

TOMORROW is make or break day for 18-year-olds with the release of the A-level results.

Many students will automatically have secured a place at their university of choice – but for some their results will not be as expected and they face the prospect of clearing to get their uni place.

The advice is simple: DON'T PANIC. But be prepared to make the call within hours of learning your results. Popular courses can fill up in one day, but preparation is the key.

John Slater, Canterbury Christ Church University's director of admissions, said: "If your exam results are not quite what you expected, do not worry, but you do need to plan your strategy."

"Check with your 'firm' choice to see if they have accepted you. Sometimes you will find they lower the number of points asked for and will still accept you."

"If they are not prepared to do this, you need to check whether your insurance offer has been confirmed. If not, you need to enter the clearing process."

He said students should make a note of the courses they are interested in and start contacting the universities about them.

"Have your UCAS application number, clearing entry number and a list of your grades to hand when you telephone the university," he added.

Lecturers and students at the University of Greenwich at Medway's clearing centre were expecting a record number of calls from school and college leavers this year.

People changing their careers and mature students who want to start a degree in the new academic year also end up going through the process, the university said.

Specially trained students, including those who went through clearing, work on clearing hotlines at universities across the country.

Jessica Lewis, who set up the University of

BY JENNA PUDELEK

Greenwich at Medway's clearing centre, said: "Our aim is to give the vast majority of applicants a decision or offer during the course of their first phone call to us."

Beverley Woodhams, from the university, said she has matched hundreds of students to courses through clearing when their grades have been lower than they expected.

She told students not to be stressed because there are far more places to study than there are students, she said:

"Remember, it's a buyers' market and you hold the currency."

Each year 30,000 people gain a place during clearing, which closes on Friday, September 12. UCAS said vacancies on its website will be updated continually throughout the period.

At Hadlow College Neil Lakeland said students should not give up

their dreams and there are plenty of career opportunities for those who take the time to look.

He said: "Entry onto our foundation degrees starts at just 80 UCAS points, with honours degrees from 160 UCAS points. This means people can still get a good degree in a land-based field and ultimately achieve a good career. Even if you can't get your first choice, I'd advise students to take a careful look – they will be surprised at the range."

Steve Holdcroft, Canterbury's head of information, recruitment and admissions, offered further advice, including being flexible when looking at courses and picking one that is related to subjects chosen at school. He warned that places on popular courses are filled by mid-morning on results day and advised students not to delay calling.

Admissions officers are also more likely to be impressed by students who have thought about what they want and prepared questions to ask, he added.

If you don't get the grades, or if you decide to apply last-minute, you can still succeed

Lucy Hall, first-year creative arts student

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University of Greenwich Guide to Clearing is available online – see inside last Sunday's Kent on Sunday e-edition at www.kentnews.co.uk

The UCAS helpline is on 0871 468 0468 or visit www.ucas.com for course vacancy listings

Hadlow College: Main information line 0500 551434 www.hadlow.ac.uk

University of Kent: www.kent.ac.uk/clearing

Canterbury Christ Church University: www.canterbury.ac.uk/courses/clearing

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yourmedwayblogger

Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living in Medway...



The big selection problem: Do you go local or for glory?

IT may not seem long since the last one finished, but the Premiership season kicks-off again this weekend.

However, living and growing up in Kent doesn't give you much opportunity to have seen top-flight football.

Gillingham has been – with the brief exception of Maidstone United's rise and fall – the only county club in the Football League. Back in the days when Grandstand's results service was the only way to find out the football scores, Gillingham were always lurking at the foot of the pyramid.

Of course, in recent years they enjoyed a bit of genuine success and rose to the heady heights of the Championship – a mere stone's throw from the Premiership.

Yet, normal service has been resumed with last year's relegation, dumping them back into the bottom division, a stone's throw from the world of non-league football.

I recently watched some footage of the team in pre-season training. It seemed to mainly consist of jumping over croquet hoops and run-

ning in and out of pretty coloured sticks. I can't help feeling if they spent a bit more time just playing football they might actually manage to get promoted this season.

It can be hard as a kid to know which team to give your allegiance, especially if there is no family history of supporting a club. I used to be a Liverpool supporter, like pretty well everyone else in my primary school class at the time. It was mainly because they were winning everything. In the same way as most Manchester United supporters do today.

The irony was that I went to school with a big red Man United bag. My mum thought it was the right size and it was the only one they had left in the shop. I had to constantly explain the situation to confused playground adversaries which just made matters worse.

I always felt a fraud. I thought I should be supporting Gillingham because they were the closest club but let's be honest, they are rubbish. No team like that is ever going to inspire a young child to support it. The only ones that do are forced to by their parents and later on in life end up sad individuals slogging up and

down the motorway following their lower division heroes, with nothing else to fill their lives.

An old friend of mine is a mad Bury FC fan. When I say mad, I don't just mean quirky. He is clinically obsessive and has alienated himself from the rest of the world; forever trapped in a lower division nightmare.

You could be the worst type of supporter (the floater). Another friend of mine is the example of this breed. He comes from Bolton, but never used to support Wanderers because they were not much better than the Gills. Sheffield Wednesday were his team, because, he said, of some tenuous family connection (and they were in the Premiership). But then he switched to Bolton when they suddenly improved. The biggest irony is that he is now a committed Gills supporter because he married a girl from the town and her dad started taking him to home games. And now he spends more time at Priestfield than I ever have. Real love perhaps?

EDITOR'S NOTE: All bloggers are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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Question: How many CDs are there in the Massive Weekend compilation?

No purchase necessary. For our full terms and conditions see www.kentnews.co.uk or call 01303 817073. If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.



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TALK TIME

CAROLINE FORD

The charity fund-raising manager talks about her role in The Friends of the Wisdom Hospice.



Can you tell us a little about yourself?

I am a married mother-of-three living in Rainham. We share our house with two cats, two finches and a gecko, in addition to the hordes of spiders and insects that regularly invade from the surrounding fields.

Tell us about the Friends of the Wisdom Hospice.

The hospice was set up in 1981 to carry on the work begun by Molly Wisdom, herself a cancer patient, to raise funds for a hospice for the Medway and Swale area.

The Friends raised the funds required to build and furnish the hospice, entering into an agreement with the then Medway Health Authority that the authority would staff and run the hospice with financial support from us.

The Friends continue to provide financial support to the hospice by way of an annual grant – the grant agreed for this year is £502,000. We also funded a major refurbishment and extension at the hospice, which was completed in 2004.

How and why did you get involved with Friends of the Wisdom Hospice and what is your role?

I joined the hospice just over ten years ago. I was on maternity leave following the birth of my son and was "definitely not going back to work this time".

I saw the part-time post for administrator/fund-raising manager advertised and it was too tempting an opportunity to resist. I had been working as a charity fund-raiser with national charities for nine years and now looked forward to raising funds for a cause right at the heart of our community.

My role means I have overall responsibility for all our fund-raising activities, although much of the day-to-day organisation of these is ably managed by Emma, our fund-raising coordinator.

YOUR LETTERS



Camp campaigners are all hypocrites

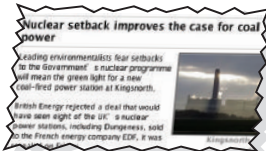
How did all these eco-warriors get here? Did they walk or cycle? No, they used cars, vans and a boat (brought from Cornwall).

How much carbon have they themselves discharged into the atmosphere by coming to Hoo?

Is that what being an eco-warrior is all about, talking the talk but doing just what you're protesting about by getting to these places.

They say they will close down Kingsnorth, well shame on them, do they not think of the hospital, or elderly, or small children, or care homes? They have no regard.

Clare Fagan, from Hoo, comment posted on web story at www.yourmedway.co.uk.



MEP's got no hope of keeping lights on

Of course, Caroline Lucas MEP isn't only against coal-fired electricity generation at Kingsnorth.



COMMENT ONLINE TOO

NOT only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

Beneath most stories on the www.yourmedway.co.uk website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article.

To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, www.yourmedway.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Medway as well as our villages.

We will include the best on these pages too – ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience.

In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourmedway before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out.

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She's also against nuclear power. In fact she's really only in favour of those alternative energy technologies that would be lovely – if only they worked. But as they don't, she has no

idea whatsoever as to how to stop the lights from going out in the UK before 2020.

Michael Seven, from Bromley, comment posted on web story at www.yourmedway.co.uk.

Renewable power is perfectly ample

The idea "the lights will go out" unless we have the Kingsnorth power station or nuclear power is wrong:

- There are more than enough renewable sources of power: see <http://www.mng.org.uk/gh/energy.htm>.
- They are not "too expensive".
- Money spent now avoids bigger costs later (the Stern report).
- Carbon capture and storage will be very expensive.
- There are many hidden subsidies for nuclear power: see http://www.mng.org.uk/gh/no_nukes.htm

Gerry Wolff, from Menai Bridge, Anglesey, comment posted on web story at www.yourmedway.co.uk.

I'm local and I'm for Kingsnorth

I am all for the new coal power station. We have lived with Kingsnorth for the last 40 years, so a more eco-friendly one is welcome. I am frustrated all the protesters do not seem to be locals, or am I wrong?

Also the inconvenience of hold-ups to and from on the A228. Is there any reason why police helicopters have to wake residents at the crack of dawn?

I know they have a job to do but why do they have to do this?

G Higgins, from Rochester, comment on web story at www.yourmedway.co.uk.

Comments about town make me sick

Alan Jarrett's comment: "I resent the accusations Medway council does not care about Gillingham"

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created a mixture of amusement and anger in me.

Has Alan Jarrett actually been to Gillingham recently? The state of the area is a disgrace!

The only nice thing we had was the park, the house (sold for PEANUTS! – who valued this at £140,000!?) and the municipal building, which has now closed. Medway council make me sick.

Bea, from Gillingham, comment posted on web story at www.yourmedway.co.uk.

Lock up the snake... owner

I was amazed to read that someone owned a pet boa constrictor in Chatham – then shocked that it escaped.

We have laws to protect animals and children from dangerous dogs.

There should be a law to restrict ownership of reptiles like these to research centres and properly regulated zoos.

One of the beauties of our island is we can wander its pleasant byways without fear of being attacked by anything nastier than a wasp. I hope the snake is

recovered before someone's pet is attacked.

Stuart Baxter, from Ipswich, comment on web story at www.yourmedway.co.uk.

Sentence needed for idiot owner

What a complete idiot, my worry is the danger this snake may have on children and small animals.

The person who owns this snake should be sentenced to six months community service.

Vikesh Lahar, from Chatham, comment on web story at www.yourmedway.co.uk.

Statue design should be made by the people

I write in response to your story on the proposed 'Angel of the South'.

The sponsors see the statue as a giant 'Meeter and Greeter', but to what? Kent in flux, countryside-eating estates, road and rail routes, all overseen by empty

churches. Clearer objectives are needed for the statue.

The North's Angel is a poor reference point. A handful of designers have been commissioned, no doubt art institute-trained, with institutional answers.

Why was there no open competition?

It's worth noting the Eiffel Tower was decried as ugly by artists and writers of the day, but Guy de Maupassant breakfasted there daily.

Asked why, he replied: "It's the only place in Paris where I don't have to look at it." Book me a seat.

DC Potten, from Rochester, by email.

Invicta the only option for angel

Of course the only choice for a statue to reflect Kent is a white horse, and, of course, that horse should be Invicta.

There should not be any need for a debate!

Yorkshire has its White Rose, Lancashire its Red Rose – Kent has its Invicta. Enough said.

Christine Wilson, Maid of Kent, by email.



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Time: 7.30pm till late • Ticket price: £75 per person • Dress code: party wear

Talk to us about how you can support and get involved in this special event by contacting us on 01795 845288, events@demelza.org.uk or visit www.demelza.org.uk



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Picture: WWW.MANILOW.COM

INSPIRATION: Barry Manilow's popular songs form the basis for the new musical *Can't Smile Without You*, starring Chesney Hawkes

Barry is the one and only

Chesney Hawkes performs in Manilow tribute

KENT theatregoers will witness the world premiere of new Barry Manilow musical *Can't Smile Without You*.

Former pop star Chesney Hawkes plays the lead role in the show, which celebrates the timeless songs that have made Manilow such a well-loved performer all over the world. Featuring some of his most popular tracks, including *Mandy*, *It's a Miracle*, *Could It Be Magic* and the Grammy Award-winning *Copacabana*, it should be an unmissable treat for any fan.

The hits are strung along a storyline about a young band in search of fame, who are offered the chance to audition for the latest reality TV show. Lead singer Tony (Hawkes) is given the opportunity of a lifetime when he is asked to appear on the show, but a tragic accident ruins his plans. Tony is left with no memory, just his love of music and his feelings for a girl he once knew called Mandy – with the help of these lifelines, can he get his life back on track?

Following his starring role in the 1991 film *Buddy's Song*, Hawkes released soundtrack song *The One and Only*, which became the 20th most successful single of the 90s. He has since become a songwriter and is in demand as a performer on the university circuit, as well as appearing on Channel 4's reality show *The Games* and ITV's *Hit Me Baby One More Time*.



Picture: FOX FEATURES

his 13th birthday.

The boy went on to perform locally before enrolling at the New York College of Music and The Juilliard School under his mother's maiden name Manilow, Edna having legally changed both their surnames by this point.

His 1964 marriage to childhood sweetheart Susan Diexler foundered two years later under the strain of his musical ambitions. Manilow was working as a commercial jingles writer and singer well into the 70s, including campaigns for *Bowlene Toilet Cleaner*, *Kentucky Fried Chicken* and *McDonalds*.

His association with singer Bette Midler began in 1970 and his debut self-titled album was released in 1973. Since then he has sold more than 76 million records worldwide and has been named the Number One Adult Contemporary Artist by industry newspaper *Radio & Records*. He has been the headline act at the Las Vegas Hilton since 2005, continuing to entertain fans from all over the world.

Tickets for *Can't Smile Without You* are priced from £21 to £33. To book call 0870 060 6620 or visit www.churchilltheatre.co.uk.

The show will also be at the Orchard Theatre, Dartford, from September 8 to 13.

CAN'T SMILE WITHOUT YOU

Thursday to Saturday,
August 28-September 6
The Churchill Theatre, Bromley



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HAVE A GO FAMILY KARTING DAY

Sunday, August 24
Buckmore Park International
Outdoor Kart Circuit, Chatham

FOLLOW in the tyre tracks of Lewis Hamilton with a day behind the wheel at Buckmore Park.

The British Formula One sensation learned his trade as a youngster at the Chatham track, along with fellow racing stars Jensen Button and Johnny Herbert.

Celebrating its 45th anniversary this year, Buckmore Park still offers a thrilling day out for all the family.

On Sunday, August 24, the circuit is holding a Have a Go Family Karting Day for everyone aged four and above. There will be 15-minute 'arrive n' drive' sessions available at subsidised prices from 10am to 5pm,



with separate sessions for different age groups, including mums and dads.

New for 2008 is a permanent 120m length Paddock Circuit which is open on most school holiday days, including weekends, for 'arrive n' drive' karting and birthday parties for four to

11-year-olds. This year also sees the launch of the Bambino Kart Racing School and Club for six and seven year olds – a first for the UK as previously the minimum age was eight.

For more details call 01634 661612 or visit www.buckmore.co.uk.

THE BEST OF BRITISH

Friday, September 19
Orchard Theatre, Dartford

LEGENDS of comedy, magic and music have teamed up to create The Best of British Variety Tour.

Frank Carson, now 81, won talent show Opportunity Knocks three times and has become one of the most televised comedians in Britain. After more than 40 years in the business, Cannon and Ball are one of the country's most successful double acts. Their TV show ran for 12 years and their 1988 season at the London Palladium broke box office records. Former Redcoat Jimmy Cricket won over fans with his gentle Irish blarney and hilarious letters from his Mammy. Paul Daniels was the face of magic in Britain for many years and has achieved international recognition for his baffling skills.

The Krankies' imaginative act won them roles as presenters of the BBC's Crackerjack, along with three series of their own. Music will come from Brotherhood of Man, whose hits included their 1976 Eurovision Song Contest winner Save All Your Kisses For Me.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £25. To book call 01322 220000 or visit www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.

MONSTER MANIA

Saturday and Sunday,
August 16-17
The Hop Farm, Paddock Wood

POP heartthrob Shane Lynch will be making a guest appearance at Monster Mania on Sunday.

One lucky fan will win the chance to have lunch with the Boyzone star, which might be just as exciting as the high octane action in the arena.

American monster truck racing offers an adrenaline-fuelled day out that will keep all the family entertained, as the metallic stars crunch, crush and roar their way through the heats in the hope of winning the European Championship title.

There will be the chance to see cars getting crushed beneath the wheels of five-tonne super machines, while a motorbike stunt team will add to the thrills.

For the best view, arena seats must be booked in advance.

There will a chance to meet



the drivers and their machines at the VIP pit party from 10am to 11am, which costs an extra £5.

Tickets on the gate are from £15 for adults, £11 for

children and £56 for families. Discounted advance tickets are available at www.thehopfarm.co.uk. Book in advance to receive a free Monster Mania Yearbook.

MEDWAY LEISURE

Theatre to host this summer's little hero

CINEMA fans can enjoy the hit animated film WALL•E (cert U) for less at the Central Theatre, Chatham.

The Disney-Pixar movie is the touching and funny story of a little robot left alone on a pollution-ravaged Earth for 700 years. WALL•E's solitary life is turned upside down with the arrival of EVE, sent to find out if Earth can support the return of the humans.

Screenings are from Friday until August 28, at 12pm and 2.30pm. Tickets cost £3.75. Call 01634 338338 or visit www.medway.gov.uk/theatres.

Band to get your feet tapping with their jazz

JAZZ fans can enjoy an evening of live music tomorrow night, courtesy of The Donn Barcott Band.

The seven-piece band will be performing at The 4-4-2 Club in Featherby Road, Gillingham, starting at 8pm. There will be snacks, licensed bar and a chance to win prizes in the raffle.

Admission costs £5. For details call the jazz line on 01634 405037.

Kites will dance around the sky this weekend

LOOK to the skies and go fly a kite at Capstone Farm Country Park in Gillingham this weekend.

On Saturday and Sunday visitors are invited to fly alongside fellow enthusiasts from all over the region. There will also be stalls selling local produce, countryside crafts workshops, gladiator jousts, face painting and bouncy castles.

Admission costs £1.50. For more information call the park on 01634 812196.

Spread the word about your gig or event here

WOULD you like to see your concert or event publicised on these pages?

Send full details of your event – including dates, times, ticket prices and how to book – to jane.connolly@kosmedia.co.uk or by post to the address on page 2. Submissions should arrive at least two weeks before the preferred date of publication.

If possible, include a good photograph to illustrate your event. We cannot guarantee coverage, but we will do our best to promote local events.

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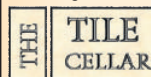
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John Rocha prom dress, price £95

DOROTHY PERKINS

Taffeta dress, price £40

DEBENHAMS

Betty Jackson shift dress, price £100

MATALAN

Top, price £8

To search for shopping, services, leisure and entertainment log on @
yourkenttv.co.uk

HOBBS

Shoe boot,
price £149



DOROTHY PERKINS

Satin blouse,
price £25

DOROTHY PERKINS

Coat, price £75



NEW LOOK

Bag, price £15

MEDWAY SHOPPING

Award-winning home deliveries come to Kent

ONLINE grocery business Ocado has branched out across the county to offer Waitrose and famous name brand goods delivered straight to the home – with the delivery driver even helping to unpack groceries.

The service will offer premium products, as well as the necessary household essentials, with high quality food and drink among the specialities on offer.

And in an effort to keep prices low, Ocado has promised to match the prices offered by Tesco on all branded goods.

The company says its service is the most environmentally friendly way to shop and has been recognised as such by the presentation of an Online Green Award – known as an OLGA.

Ocado beat off strong competition from Ebay, easyjet, Marks & Spencer and Ebuyer, in the large retailer category – which was voted for by shoppers.

Jon Rudoe, head of retail at the business, said: "We are delighted to be bringing Ocado to Kent.

"Shoppers deserve excellent service and delicious products at great prices, both of which we can deliver."

For more details or to order a shopping delivery log on to www.ocado.com or call 0845 6561234.

Feel beautiful when you take advantage of offer

A BEAUTY salon under new management is offering a special introductory offer to all new and existing customers.

Ladies can get the mini holiday package at Becky's Beauty Room at the Roffen Club in Rochester for just £22 – a saving of £5.50.

This includes nail painting for hands and feet, an eyebrow wax and a bikini wax. Marh Cohr, Paris, products are used.

Men should be made up by skincare products

MEN can now get that celebrity hunk look thanks to the launch of the UK's first make-up range for men.

Superdrug launches its Taxi Man collection today with male make-up essentials like Guy Liner, which is used by celebrities including Robbie Williams, Russell Brand and Jimmy Carr, and Manscara, both priced at £6.50 at the Pentagon Centre, Gillingham High Street and Hempstead Valley stores.

A Superdrug spokesman said: "There is no longer any pain in men being seen to be vain."

Treat yourself to some bargains in the sale

SHOPPERS wanting to spoil themselves before the summer season ends can enjoy hundreds of price cuts in New Look's latest sale.

Customers can choose between a tasteful selection of jeans, tops, accessories, trousers, shorts, dresses and footwear, which are all included in the huge sale at Chatham's Pentagon Centre and Gillingham High Street stores.

For more information see in-store or log on to www.newlook.co.uk.

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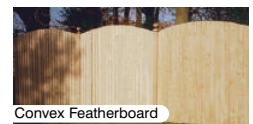
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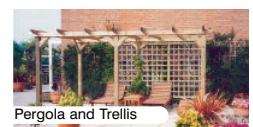


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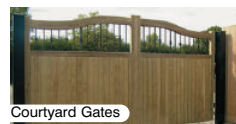


Concave Palisade

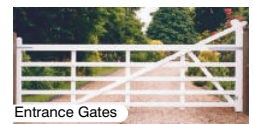


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YOUR TV REVIEW



THE SECRET MILLIONAIRE

Channel 4, 9pm, Tuesday



HOUSE OF SADDAM

BBC Two, 9pm, Wednesday

■ BY TOM BETTS

DEATH, guns, chasing after villains and high-octane explosions are well and good, and we all need a bit of escapism in our lives, but we all know there's a little more to life than that really.

Every now and then it's nice to feel that television can explore avenues other than just straight forward entertainment which is why Channel 4's Secret Millionaire is usually such a welcome addition to the schedules.

For a show that rarely fails to be engaging, it was, admittedly, not the best of starts.

It fell to a financier James Benamor to make a difference first, but things got off to a muted beginning.

The guy with an aversion to introductions (maybe not the best of attributes for this kind of thing) ditched his Lotus and the trappings of wealth for 10 days and tootled around less than perfect Moss Side in Manchester in a clapped-out Nissan.

Posing as a volunteer youth worker while looking for people to donate sizeable chunks of his £77 million fortune to, James did his best, but episode one just didn't have the emotional resonance of past efforts in the series and never really got going.

As it's a show that lives and dies by how many tears it can wring out of an audience, and indeed its participants, so expect rainy faces before bedtime as we head into the next few episodes and the rest of the series.

While it wasn't the best of begin-



MONEYBAGS: Channel 4's Secret Millionaire shows just how innovative the channel can be

nings, the last run was among the best TV on our screens last year and won numerous awards.

It served as a sharp reminder as to why, when they really make the effort, Channel 4 is still our most innovative broadcaster.

What makes this show all the more inspiring is watching those obscenely rich people learn more about life outside their mansions and fawning social set than they ever thought they would.

House of Saddam has been a bit of a hoot these last few weeks as we have watched the Iraqi despot torture, rape and pillage his way to the top of the country's hierarchy in very graphic style.

This all has a very camp feel to it, with some very over the top acting and sets that could well have been stolen from the parking lot of the ill-fated Carry On Columbus, but has nonetheless it has been great fun watching the panto unfold.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

A BUSINESS or romantic partner could encourage you to act on a dream. It's never too late to realise your heartfelt desires. Some heavy flirting with a love interest could make life exciting again. If you're already in a relationship, you may want to step up your game.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

MAKING more time for pleasurable pursuits is a good idea. Lately, you've been snowed under with family responsibilities. Be ready to hand these duties to someone else so you can have some fun. Your boss may not have a clear idea of what you should be doing.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

BUSINESS matters demand your attention. It's possible you're not being paid enough to perform a difficult job. Be ready to ask for a raise, even if it means confronting a difficult employer. They won't part with money easily, but they'll be unable to argue with your logic.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

LEARNING about a social justice issue could give you a new lease on life. You're determined to make a positive difference. Be wary of casting judgment on a relative. Their feelings are pretty fragile right now. Think back to when you could have benefited from a compassionate attitude.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

YOUR detailed knowledge of a particular subject puts you in line for a promotion. Don't be shy about promoting your extensive background in this area. You're far more experienced than any of your rivals. An honest talk with a partner could reveal some troubling information.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

A SHORT trip to see family could be in the cards. Try not to bring up troubling incidents from the past. Don't contradict an expert. Although you have different ideas about how certain things should be done, they have spent a lifetime perfecting their own techniques.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

YOU'RE about to assume a much more public role. It may be up to you to deliver some difficult news. Fortunately, you're able to talk about difficult subjects in a way that is compassionate and sensitive. Resist the urge to dress down an incompetent colleague.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

YOU have a wonderful opportunity to put some old knowledge to use at work. Don't be surprised if you're asked to demonstrate a skill or technique. Your energy and enthusiasm make you a popular teacher. Your students will also be impressed by your versatility.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

ESTABLISHING a new routine should be your first order of business. Having a game plan is half the battle. You need to conserve your energy to handle the heavy workload ahead. Be realistic when it comes to an absent minded friend. If you need help, ask a neighbour or relative.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

THIS is a wonderful time to negotiate a better salary. You're overdue for a reward. A writing project could be a welcome outlet for bottled up emotions. Just because you can't express your true feelings in public doesn't mean you have to keep them entirely buried.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

A FRIEND could give you a wake-up call. It's time to change the way you think about the world. Perhaps you've been taking too pessimistic a view of life. You can create opportunities when you look at the universe as a potential packed place. You could be entrusted with secrets.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

GAINING admittance to a school, club, or professional organisation is highly favoured. You'll have to fill out some detailed paperwork. Enlist the aid of an eagle-eyed Virgo to make sure you don't skip any important points. Listen to an expert with regard to business.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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EASY

	6	9		3	8			
8			5	4	7			
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MEDIUM

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				3		9	7	
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HARD

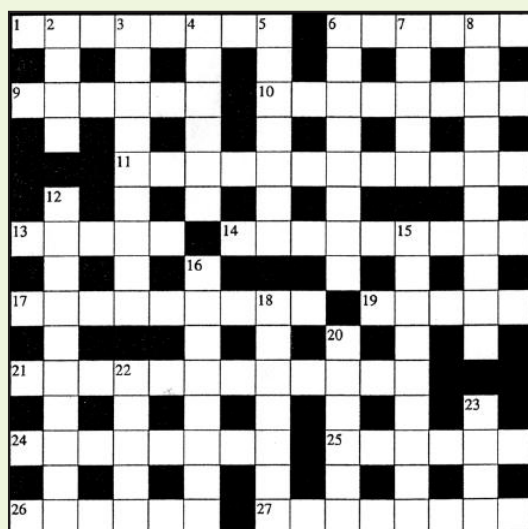
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8			3					5
	5						2	
7			1					9
			5					3
4	9	3					1	
3								6

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Ancient writer (5-3)
 - 6 Entirely trendy drink, love (2,4)
 - 9 During waltz Anderson consumed fish (6)
 - 10 Reasonable allowance has a learner's backing (8)
 - 11 Form of late education (7,5)
 - 13 Mark upset a Fate (5)
 - 14 It is linked to offer personal protection (5-4)
 - 17 Hard mineral from sink removed first by miser (9)
 - 19 Bridge partners always jeer (5)
 - 21 Doing a cover-up job on the walls? (12)
 - 24 Gun Carol cocked gave loud ringing sound (8)
 - 25 Large number of towns, one in South Africa (6)
 - 26 Lady's short poem? (6)
 - 27 Coming from Clare, new novelist (8)
- #### DOWN
- 2 In the group a sequoia tree! (4)
 - 3 The Parisian maidens upsetting would-be seducer (6,3)
 - 4 Speak with another player mesmerised (6)
 - 5 And not said hag coming from the city (7)
 - 6 New obligation did not include old boy making engraved design (8)
 - 7 Goblin to start to go round and round (5)
 - 8 Finds extra trouble when made immobile (10)
 - 12 Card held at random by loud show-off (4-3-3)
 - 15 Middle Eastern horse on lake at zoo (9)
 - 16 Disappointment, dingy abode has vent for gas to escape (8)
 - 18 Breathtaking feature (7)
 - 20 Fungus on beer you and I lifted up (6)
 - 22 Indistinct part of old tinge (5)
 - 23 Scotsman right to include brandy (4)

SCRIBBLE HERE



QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 SKO (8)
- 6 Themes (6)
- 9 Openly done (6)
- 10 Snowstorm (8)
- 11 Best selling brand (6,6)
- 13 Follow (5)
- 14 Dishonest schemes (3-2,4)
- 17 Most sweltering (9)
- 19 Aquatic mammal (5)
- 21 Take unfair precedence (4,3,5)
- 24 Prosperous (4-2-2)
- 25 Hit high (6)
- 26 Unaccented (6)
- 27 Omnipotent (8)

DOWN

- 2 Commonsense (4)
- 3 Journalist (9)
- 4 Carriage pulled by an animal (6)
- 5 Picturesque display (7)
- 6 Rehearsal (5,3)
- 7 Open pie (5)
- 8 Tinned meat (6,4)
- 12 Deceptive (10)
- 15 Jazz dance (9)
- 16 One who stays up late (5-3)
- 18 Redwood tree (7)
- 20 Fine parchment (6)
- 22 Cable supporter (5)
- 23 Bodily extremities (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No48

EASY

4	3	7	8	2	1	5	9	6
6	1	8	7	9	5	2	3	4
2	5	9	6	4	3	7	8	1
5	7	6	9	3	2	1	4	8
8	9	4	1	7	6	3	5	2
3	2	1	4	5	8	6	7	9
7	8	3	2	6	4	9	1	5
1	6	5	3	8	9	4	2	7
9	4	2	5	1	7	8	6	3

MEDIUM

9	6	2	4	1	3	5	8	7
3	7	5	2	8	9	1	6	4
1	8	4	6	7	5	2	9	3
7	9	6	3	5	8	4	1	2
4	2	3	9	6	1	7	5	8
5	1	8	7	2	4	9	3	6
6	4	9	1	3	7	8	2	5
2	5	7	8	9	6	3	4	1
8	3	1	5	4	2	6	7	9

HARD

6	9	2	4	3	1	7	5	8
4	7	8	9	2	5	3	6	1
1	3	5	6	8	7	9	4	2
5	4	3	2	9	8	1	7	6
9	2	1	7	5	6	8	3	4
7	8	6	3	1	4	2	9	5
2	1	7	5	4	9	6	8	3
8	5	9	1	6	3	4	2	7
3	6	4	8	7	2	5	1	9

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No48

ACROSS: 1 Wexford 5 Request 9 Hair 10 Casablanca 12 Repeater 13 Rumble 14 Trade journal 17 Everybody out 21 Callow 23 Rhetoric 24 Like-minded 25 Adze 26 Undergo 27 Revenge. DOWN: 2 Elated 3 Fire-eater 4 Ricotta 6 Embargo 7 Unarm 8 Sicilian 11 Surrendered 15 Rationale 16 Aviation 18 Bowling 19 Overdue 20 Zigzag 22 Liège.

QUICK SOLUTION No49

10 Blizzards 11 Market leader 13 Trail 14 Put-up jobs 17 Sulfur 19 Otter 21 Jump the queue 24 Well-to-do 25 Lobbed 26 Column 27 Almighty. DOWN: 2 Nons 3 Colman's 4 Oxcart 5 Tableau 6 Trail run 7 Pizzeria 8 Corned beef 12 Fraudulent 15 Jitterbug 16 Night-owl 18 Sequoia 20 Vellum 22 Pylon 23 Feet.

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

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A short break is truly capital

■ BY GARY WRIGHT

WE all like London. Whatever we say about 'too many people', 'too much traffic', 'too much...' whatever, we all like it.

It is our nation's capital, there is a buzz about the place which gets to everyone and, if you don't have to work there, it's fun.

From my W1 hotel I'd been promised 'dramatic views across London's skyline' what I actually saw was an office block. But, if I leaned to the left, I could see the London Eye.

Now don't view this as a complaint. I was staying at the swish Cavendish Hotel, just off Piccadilly opposite Fortnum and Masons, in west London as part of an overnight short break, which included a West End show.

The truth is, I've seen London's skyline a thousand times and the giant TV and king size bed were far more interesting. However, had I been one of the trillions of Japanese tourists who had chosen the Cavendish, I might have been a little peeved at the view.

The four-star Cavendish is a great hotel, brilliantly located – especially for the West End and all the theatres and some fantastic restaurants – and you can be staying there in the lap of luxury for a couple of hundred pounds.

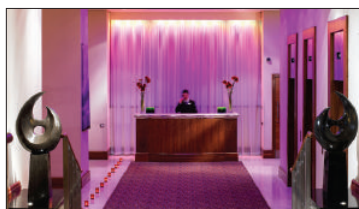
But let's take a look at the short break: Firstly, London is cheaper than you think. Forget the stories of it being the most expensive capital in the world and all the other nonsense. Remember, ordinary folk do live there and they can't afford to spend ridiculous money on living just because London attracts the odd rich tourist and City boys scoring £1 million bonuses.

And secondly – an important selling factor in 2008 – is that there's a bit of a recession going on. No sorry, I mean there's a 'credit crunch', so there's less cash about, which means there are bargains galore to be had.

I kid you not. My partner and I sat outside a French restaurant just off Covent Garden (a 10 minute stroll from the hotel) on a warm evening just two weeks ago, where I tucked into the finest onion soup I've ever tasted, then steak-frites, washed down with wine, followed



NEVER FORGET: A weekend at the Cavendish Hotel, shopping and catching a show, can be cheaper than you'd think



by coffee. I said goodbye to £35 – for both of us.

And what of the theatre? Well we chose to ignore the obvious Les Miserables, or the spectacularly well-received Billy Elliot, nor were we attracted by Mamma Mia!, we'd chosen to see Never Forget – the musical that brings Take That to the stage at The Savoy Theatre.

My partner is a fan of the boy band and I have no shame in admitting I've absorbed the songs over the years. It really was fun, beauti-

fully produced with fine special effects.

A simple story about five lads forming a tribute band and the singer Ash (Gary Barlow character) learning love means never having to... well do anything really apart from sing and fail to save your mum's pub from repossession. But it romped along and was a great evening that had us dancing in the aisles.

The Cavendish is deserving of its four-stars and breakfast delivered to your room (an extra £21) was a great start to the day. Saturday was spent shopping of course – again be prepared for bargains on everything from trainers and shirts to Fortnum and Masons' finest.

A great weekend and the easy bit for us in Kent is driving to the O2 Arena (A2 all the way) park on a Friday afternoon (£9 until Saturday midnight) and the Jubilee Line takes you to Green Park and the hotel.

Try it, it's a great way to take in a show and sample the best of London... and it doesn't cost the earth.

SHARE THE FUN



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Gary Wright was a guest of Superbreak 0871 222 3055 or www.superbreak.com, offering a variety of short breaks to London.

A package combining overnight accommodation in a double room at the four star Cavendish Hotel with full breakfast and a rear stall or upper circle ticket to see Never Forget costs from £134 per person.

Price is valid at weekends in September and based on two sharing.

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July 21	~Norton Grange, Isle of Wight	4	£224	£189pp
July 25	Littlecote House, Berkshire	3	£269	£239pp
July 28	Bodelwyddan Castle, North Wales	4	£304	£269pp
August 8	Alvaston Hall, Cheshire	3	£234	£199pp
August 11	Nidd Hall, North Yorkshire	4	£324	£279pp
August 11	Gunton Hall, Suffolk + 50p Bar on last night	4	£239	£199pp
August 18	Lakeside, Hayling Island + 50p Bar on last night	4	£219	£199pp
August 25	Gunton Hall, Suffolk + 50p Bar on last night	4	£239	£199pp
August 25	~Norton Grange, Isle of Wight + 50p Bar on last nt	4	£229	£199pp
August 25	Lakeside, Hayling Island + free lunches Tues-Thurs	4	£219	£199pp
August 25	Bodelwyddan Castle, North Wales	4	£309	£289pp
August 29	~Bembridge, Isle of Wight	3	£244	£199pp

~Norton Grange & Bembridge breaks include return car ferry *Warner price taken from their 2008 brochure

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PROPERTY NEWS



On the junction of great opportunity

STYLISH one- and two-bedroom apartments in Maidstone will be launched by Ward Homes later this month.

A total of 44 homes are being offered for sale at Maidstone Junction.

Ann Moriarty, sales and marketing director for the company said: "The proximity of the train station is a huge advantage, and whether you want to shop, relax, exercise, or go clubbing – it's all nearby. We're pricing these apartments very competitively so that first-time buyers don't have to compromise with anything less than a great lifestyle in the centre of town."

Many of the apartments have a balcony or terrace and there is an elevated courtyard on the first floor, which will be landscaped to provide an outdoor space for residents.

Home ownership is still the aim of many

DESIRE to own your own home appears to be showing no sign of abating, despite the recent falls in house prices.

New research commissioned by the New Homes Marketing Board found nine out of 10 people believe buying a home is a sensible investment in the medium or long term.

This is despite surveys from the Land Registry and Rightmove showing prices are continuing to accelerate downwards.

However, the research – which was carried out by YouGov – reveals the economic climate, and not falling prices, is serving to stifle home-ownership ambitions.

About 60 per cent of respondents have put their plans to purchase property on hold, citing difficulties in either obtaining a mortgage or saving the larger deposits required.



GREEN STATEMENT: The next Sustainability Explored workshop takes place at the Pines Calyx venue (pictured) on September 10. Visit www.sustainabilityexplored.co.uk

Sustainable building can be achieved now

■ BY NICK AMES

THE organisers of a number of conferences in east Kent have called on house builders to change if they are to deliver the homes needed in a world affected by ever-higher fuel costs and global warming.

A series of workshops called Sustainability Explored, aimed at professionals in planning, housing, design and construction, has been staged to help them get to grips with the challenge of producing zero-carbon buildings and sustainable communities needed in Kent in the 21st century.

The workshops, sponsored by English Partnerships and the Carbon Free Group, are

being organised by social enterprise Real-Health Ventures, in the Pine Calyx venue in St Margaret's.

Jaе Mather of the Carbon Free Group said: "Developers keep saying zero carbon homes are expensive to build, yet we can prove they are wrong and we'll be featuring a design which will cost only £1,100 a square metre, only marginally more costly than a conventional house being built today. What is more, they use proven technologies and can be built now. We'll be telling people how that can be done."

The idea for the workshops came from members of the Carbon Free Group of environmental businesses, who are working together

to apply low-carbon building techniques.

They say that to construct energy-efficient buildings, the whole industry needs to acquire new skills and understand how to use new technologies and techniques.

"There have been a lot of developments in the ways people think about building low carbon, sustainable buildings, particularly homes" says Alistair Gould of the Pines Calyx.

"Our own building is a great example, but there is a pressing need for the whole industry to really understand what is involved. These are exciting times, but also confusing with new regulations, new designs, new technologies.

"So far the mainstream industry has been very slow in changing, but the pace of change is going to accelerate in the coming years. We are giving people a chance to get up to speed."

AUCTIONEER CLIVE EMSON TAKES A TOUR OF SOME OF THE QUIRKIER PROPERTIES TO BE FOUND IN THE AREA @ propertyforkent.co.uk





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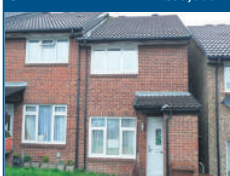
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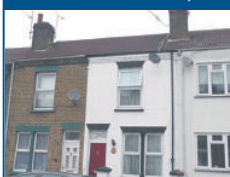
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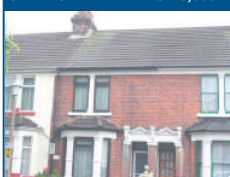
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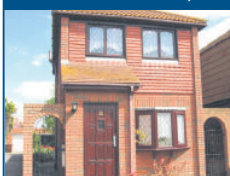
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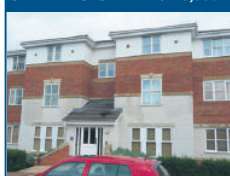
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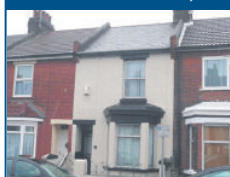
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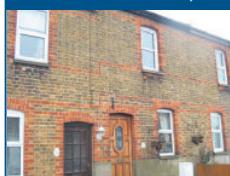
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Rochester Office Tel: 01634 812697
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Maidstone Road OIEO £350,000

3-4 bedroom detached chalet bungalow, 2-3 receptions, conservatory, driveway, garage, garden.
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Cliffe Woods OIEO £285,000

3 bedroom detached bungalow, master ensuite bathroom and double garage.
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3 bedroom town house, ensuite, dressing room, garage and allocated parking.
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Wemmick Close £265,000

5 Bedroom family house, kitchen/breakfast room, secluded garden to rear, driveway to front
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Cuxton Road £199,995

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Allhallows £185,000

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College Avenue £165,995

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Sycamore Road £159,995

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Haven Close £154,995

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Brabourne Avenue £149,995

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Dial Road £139,500

3 separate bedroom mid terrace house, double glazing, central heating, upstairs bathroom.
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70 Featherby Road, Rainham, Gillingham, Kent ME8 6AW
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Duncan Road £124,995

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High Street £100,000

1 bedroom ground floor maisonette, double glazed, allocated parking space, no chain.

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Victoria Street OIEO £99,995

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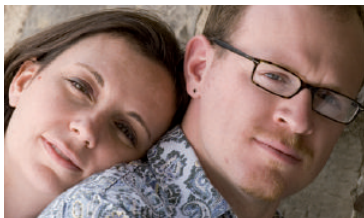
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WOMEN'S SPOTLIGHT

FOND OF A BLONDE?

Blonde female, 21, outgoing, medium build, loves country walks, fun nights out, playing golf etc. WLTW guy, 21-27, to share fun times with. Heathfield, Box 891100 **6**

LOOKIN' A GUY WHO'S EASY ON THE EYE!

25yr old female, 5ft8, medium-curved build, NS, enjoys reading, painting, cinema, walks, WLTW tall, attractive man, 23-32, for friendship, maybe LTR. Box 442544 **6**

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

Lively female, 26, 5ft2, brown hair, green eyes, size 10, single mum, enjoys most things, seeks genuine, laid-back guy, for fun, friendship and more. Box 428555 **6**

SEE WHERE IT TAKES US

I'm 26, 5ft10, enjoy going out, restaurants, pubs, cinema and cosy nights in, looking for someone tall to go out with possibly leading to relationship. Box 418077 **6**

WE COULD MAKE IT HAPPEN

Relaxed redhead, 32yr old, 5ft4, enjoys theatre, meals and cosy nights in, WLTW a male, 30-42, for a happy relationship. Box 442617 **6**

THE NURSE WILL SEE YOU NOW...

Laid-back yet outgoing nurse, 33, 5ft2, faithful, happy, love swimming, the gym, seeking similar down-to-earth male, 35-50, for hopeful relationship. Box 442916 **6**

THE TRUTH ABOUT RUTH

I'm Ruth, hard-working, kind, caring woman, 32, brown hair, nice smile, looking to meet similar chap, so call me and let's see how it goes. Box 901072 **6**

SENSUAL HEALING?

I'm a social, caring and sensual woman, 33, who enjoys having fun, conversation, arts, music and eating out, seeking a like-minded, upbeat man. Box 89177 **6**

FUN-LOVING FEMALE

Attractive, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTW intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells, Box 308734 **6**

ANIMAL MAGIC!

Single, kind, caring animal lover, 34, from Kent, likes cooking, cinema, theatre, most music, seeks non-smoking male, 34-38, for LTR. Box 440782 **6**

CHAT'S ENTERTAINMENT

Lovely single mum, 38, 5ft4, blonde, slim, loves socialising, good fun and chatty, WLTW male for fun, laughter, maybe LTR. Box 372889 **6**

YOUNG-AT-HEART

Attractive female, 38, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curly, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male for friendship/more. Box 901893 **6**

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE

Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, WLTW a professional, loving, tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551 **6**

MAKE ME LAUGH!

Fun extrovert person, 45, likes cinema, going out, meals, socialising, 5ft7, dark brown hair/eyes, curly, seeking nice guy to start off as friends/more. Box 442905 **6**

MOVING ON FROM FRIENDSHIP

Hi I'm 45, 5ft6, largish build, blue eyes, non-smoker/driver, devoted kid, seeking male to share life with, walks, beaches and more. Canterbury, Box 440592 **6**

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE?

Fast approaching a winter of discontent, 46, tall, bright, could you be my log fire and toasted marshmallow? Box 918163 **6**

LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

Slender female, 46, 5ft11, easygoing, happy natured, seeking WLTW with a caring, committed man who enjoys cinema, eating out, reading, DVDs and more. Box 443216 **6**

IT'S WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT!

44yr old female, blonde hair, 5ft5, slim, easygoing, enjoy many things in life, looking for someone similar out there to enjoy life with! Box 436810 **6**

SANDY SEES DANNY

Slender, petite Sandy, 46, brown hair, green eyes, no kids, love socialising, eating out etc. GSOH, seeking trustworthy, honest man for partnership and mutual affection. Box 440100 **6**

LET'S TAKE A RIDE

Carving, 47, friendly, honest, love motor-biking, WLTW gentleman interested in bikes, walks, holidays, the countryside, museums, castles, and perhaps love! Box 440397 **6**

ON A PLATE

Caring, honest 46yr old female, 5'2", eyes of blue, redhead, likes cinema, theatre, walking, WLTW male for fun and friendship. Box 895928 **6**

TAKE A CHANCE

Caring, loving, attractive female, 41, NS, size 12, enjoys keeping fit, most things, seeks romantic, passionate, tall, good looking male, 35-42, for LTR. Eastbourne, Box 807291 **6**

LAUGHTER - VERY IMPORTANT

Single mum with own property, 43, loves running, swimming and keeping fit, wicked SOH, seeking someone to make me laugh and spend good times with. Box 443081 **6**

THIS STATE OF INDEPENDENCE

Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 441456 **6**

COULD IT BE YOU?

Hi I'm 44, slim, 5ft8, a redhead, love nights out, socialising, looking for friendship initially and hopefully more later on. Box 889800 **6**

ALL THAT I NEED

Young-looking, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving, outgoing, NS, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out, staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50, Aylesford, Box 428833 **6**

NEED A FRIEND?

Outgoing, friendly female, 69, 5ft2, likes going out, meals, dancing, bowls, socialising, cinema, concerts, seeking someone similar for friendship and companionship. Box 443092 **6**

NEED YOUR LOVE

Honest lovely lady, 72, 5ft1, cuddly, own bungalow, WLTW female to go on walks, shopping, the seaside and enjoy friendship with. Box 442939 **6**

Women seeking women

CUTE SMILE

Tracey, 23, 5ft2, green eyes, slim, blonde hair, enjoys meals out, clubs and clubs, WLTW a similar female for a relationship. Box 443246 **6**

ROCKING RELATIONSHIP

Fun-loving female, 28, in the Canterbury area, short brown hair, brown eyes, looking to meet fun-loving females for potential relationship. Box 889771 **6**

CANDLELIT CUDDELES!

40-year-old gay woman, likes nice wine, candlelight, the sea, passionate people and places, muddy walks and cosy nights in, WLTW gay woman for friendship/relationship. Seaford, Box 894541 **6**



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MAKE ME PURR

Happy-go-lucky lady with nice smile, 62, 5ft5, medium build, brown hair/eyes, enjoys dancing, walking, eating in/out, animals, seeking loving man for friendship/long term relationship. Box 443171 **6**

A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME...

Widower, early 60s, 5ft4, dark hair/eyes, medium build, non-smoking, loving, caring, no baggage! enjoys travelling, socialising, eating in/out, seeking similar male to enjoy life with. Box 441177 **6**

ON A OFFER

Darren, 39, fun loving, genuine, 5ft8, medium build, average build, smoker, WLTW a female soulmate, 25-45, for a LTR, no time wastes please. Box 442438 **6**

THE SPECIAL ONE?

41yr old genuine and understanding single lady, looking for an enjoy sports, life to the full, looking for lady, medium/large, for friendship, possibly more. Box 433635 **6**

BRING BACK LOVE

Hi I'm Nick, 41, 5ft11, enjoy cinema, eating out, golf, WLTW similar brown hair female for good times and lots of fun, perhaps love. Box 440769 **6**

WIN A TONY

41yo fun-loving guy, 5ft7, green eyes, slim-medium build, easy to get on with, honest and caring, seeks like-minded lady to enjoy everything and anything with. Maidstone, Box 443105 **6**

SIMON SAYS...

Caring single dad, 41, 5'10", average build, young-looking, WLTW lady for friendship evenings out, maybe more. Recently quit smoking! E Sussex, Box 963530 **6**

R U THE 1 FOR ME?

Lovely, loving male, 40, 6ft2, brown hair/eyes, medium/cuddly build, trustworthy, genuine and romantic, seeking honest, fun-loving, caring female to spend life with. Box 429941 **6**



MEN'S SPOTLIGHT

FOR LOVE

Hard-working male, 29, 5ft10, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, plays harder! likes going/eating out, walks, pubs, loves life, seeking similar happy, trustworthy lady. Box 442752 **6**

HOW CAN YOU RESIST?

Down-to-earth lovable guy, 30, 5ft8, stocky, blonde hair/fine eyes, likes the finer things in life, going out, eating in, pubs, WLTW genuine girl for LTR. Box 441947 **6**

GO FOR IT

Happy-go-lucky, fun loving male 31, 6ft, slim, likes pubs, clubs, playing snooker, pool, seeks caring, honest female, 32-44, for a lasting relationship. Box 410205 **6**

YOU & ME

Genuine, laid-back male, 33, 6ft, dark brown hair/brown eyes, likes pubs, clubs, cinema, meals out, sports, seeks genuine female with similar interests. Box 131966 **6**

SECURITY & WARMTH

I'm 35, 6ft, have a beautiful 3yr old little girl, very honest, caring, looking for someone I can love and make a new life with... Box 896178 **6**

WORKING OVERTIME

Self-employed male, 37, 6ft1, short brown hair, blue eyes, medium build, enjoy the gym, pubs, clubs, restaurants, WLTW female for long term relationship. Box 443065 **6**

RISE A MAN

Honest, kind, caring male, 37, blond, 6ft, enjoys walks, cinema, nights in/out, family life, WLTW like-minded, genuine female. Sarah, please call again, leave contact details! Box 430440 **6**

ALL I WANT

Down-to-earth, loyal guy, 36, looking for companionship, leading to a long-term relationship. Enjoys meals out, good company, conversation, easy evenings in. Box 914917 **6**

JOYFUL

Ledum creative gent, 38, 5ft8, medium build, short brown hair, like films, DVDs, cinema, pubbing, computer games, keeping fit, WLTW similar female for relationship. Box 441920 **6**

ON A OFFER

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Caring single dad, 41, 5'10", average build, young-looking, WLTW lady for friendship evenings out, maybe more. Recently quit smoking! E Sussex, Box 963530 **6**

R U THE 1 FOR ME?

Lovely, loving male, 40, 6ft2, brown hair/eyes, medium/cuddly build, trustworthy, genuine and romantic, seeking honest, fun-loving, caring female to spend life with. Box 429941 **6**

CARING

Understanding, average-looking, stocky, 42, 5'10", nice build, single dad, own home, loves cooking, going out, sports, WLTW someone similar to me. Maidstone, Box 411411 **6**

OPEN ARMS

Content male, 42, 5'10", nice build, single dad, own home, loves cooking, going out, sports, WLTW someone similar to me. Maidstone, Box 411411 **6**

LOVING AND KIND

Honest and caring male, 43, 5ft10, GSOH, WLTW a black female, 28-50, with a nice figure for a committed relationship. No time wastes! Box 443126 **6**

LIFETIME LOVER

Loving, honest male, 43, slim, very genuine with GSOH, likes nights in, travelling, walks, cinema, seeks black lady for company possible relationship. Box 889284 **6**

DOWN TO MARGARET!

Young-looking, slim male, 43yr old, 5ft11, blonde hair, blue eyes, GSOH, WLTW a mature lady for a committed long term relationship. Margate, Box 441706 **6**

NO TIME WASTERS!

Genuine frank, 6ft, slim brown hair, green eyes, romantic and sensitive, enjoys soul music, bowling, pubs and walks, WLTW a female, 33-40 for a LTR. Box 442674 **6**

CRAZY FOR YOU

Attractive, considerate man, 42, enjoys quiet nights in, socialising, sports, meals, the odd dance, seeks special lady to take out, a soulmate. Box 442191 **6**

SEE MY G-STRING

Young-at-heart musical male, 44, plays bass, loves punk music, poetry, nights out/in, live gigs, poetry, looking for alternative young woman 25-30 for something special. Brighton, Box 443154 **6**

NBODY WANTS TO BE LONELY

Loving 45yr old male, loves the countryside, walks on the beach and motorbikes but not being on my own. Seeking female for a LTR. S-Leeds area-on-Sea. Box 88886 **6**

SHARE THE GOOD LIFE

Professional male, 45, own home/cars, likes cinema, weekends away, the coast, a BBQ and good times, looking for friendship, hopefully more. Box 426202 **6**

NEW TO THE AREA

Attractive male, 47yr old, moving to the area shortly, WLTW a nice and slim lady, 30-45, any race, for friendship. East Sussex Box 443095 **6**

FILE THIS

Hello, I'm William, 6ft, slim, blue eyes, enjoys meals out, nice wine and a good laugh, WLTW a nice and slim lass for a relationship. Box 443235 **6**

ALL FUN OF THE FAIR!

Youthful dad, 45, 5'10", brown hair, med build, divorcee, likes pubs, cinema, restaurants, theme parks, WLTW female, 36-45, slim, for possible LTR. Cranbrook Box 373529 **6**

HOP ON

Very young at heart male, 51, looking for a very genuine person to enjoy walking, cycling, rock-climbing, motorcycles, and share life and have fun with. Box 443089 **6**

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BRING ME SUNSHINE

Young looking, romantic male, 58, 5'7", slim/medium build, like the countryside, meals out, theatre, cinema, looking for a affectionate, tactile lady to share good moments. Box 417889 **6**

SMILES ON FACES

Kind male, 50, 5ft11, slim, NS, two boys (19 and 16), likes eating out, visiting London, weekends! Looking for kind, caring lady. Looks not important. Box 42308 **6**

COME TOGETHER

Hi I'm 52, seeking lady of similar age to enjoy life together and settle down with, enjoying travel, 60s music, days out and more. Box 443214 **6**

YOU AND ME

Loving and honest 52yr old male, 5ft10, medium build, enjoys meals out, cooking and music, WLTW a mature lady for friendship, maybe romance. Box 443126 **6**

ALL GOOD THINGS

I'm 52, live and work Brighton, 5ft8, NS, laidback, sociable, enjoy company, laughter, socialising, seeking similar lady to share life, laughs and perhaps love with. Box 439133 **6**

ACTIVE & ATTRACTIVE

I'm 53, 5ft9, good-looking! Love sports, horses, animals generally, WLTW an honest, caring lady, preferably blonde & sporty, to get to know. Box 439298 **6**

A GREAT CATCH

Sensitive, loyal, attentive, playful male, 51, enjoys gym, live music, cinema, meals out, walks, conversation, WLTW female, 45-55 for trust, friendship/possible relationship. Whitstable Box 181246 **6**

MOTORS NEWS



'Dream launch' for new £3m KAP mega-site

KAP Motor Group enjoyed a 'dream launch' for its new £3 million Peugeot/Nissan site at Ashford Orbital Park over the weekend, according to MD Graham Furneaux.

Though coy about the number of cars sold, the figure was twice that expected and added up to a good mix of new and used cars as well as smaller models now attracting cash-strapped buyers.

"There's a lot negativity around, but if the deal is right then this proves you can do business," said Mr Furneaux.

"We many existing customers from our Folkestone site, but new faces too."



Cherokee changes tact with upmarket styling

JEEP revolutionised its UK image with the original Cherokee and aims to revitalise the model name with an all-new car this month, riding on a new suspension and steering system for better on-road manners.

Jeep says the Cherokee is moving upmarket too with a leather interior, heated front seats with memory adjustment, climate control, electric windows and cruise control all as standard.

The newcomer, priced from £24,595, has an optional 'Sky Slider' powered full-open canvas roof 2.5 times the size of a regular sunroof.



Ford boss predicts that Ka Two will be a big hit

FORD'S all-new Ford Ka will echo the look of the big-selling original when it goes on sale in November after a joint project with Fiat.

Ford of Britain boss Roelant de Waard said: "The original has been a huge hit in the UK with a sales record of more than 480,000 - 80 per cent of which have been to retail customers, and many of those first-time buyers. I'm confident the latest design will prove just as big a hit."



NEW LOOK: Like the original, the new '6' is sizeable, but now looks sleeker and feels lighter thanks to Mazda's obsession with shedding weight, helping the car grip and run true on bends

Mazda hits drivers with yet another stunning '6'

TOPPING a big hit is fraught with risk, but Mazda has taken its chance well with the latest Mazda6.

The original car saved the Japanese brand: it was spacious, stylish, good to drive and affordable, but it could be noisy.

The new car (from £15,110) is far more refined, even if the 2.0-litre diesel Sport tested here can be raucous.

Like the original, the new '6' is sizeable, but now looks sleeker and feels lighter too thanks to Mazda's new obsession with shedding weight, helping the front-driven car grip and run true on the bends.

Ride quality has also been balanced to deliver both driving enjoyment and comfort.

With a well-spaced six-speed gearbox, even the diesel feels relaxed on the motorway, despite wind noise at high speeds.

Though the '6' gave Mazda an important opening into the business sector, Kent motor group Drake & Fletcher - the donor of our test car - reports that sales to private buyers are currently 10-15 per cent up compared with the old car.

This suggests that the Mazda6 'product' and

ROAD TEST MAZDA6

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

status of the 'Zoom Zoom' brand have moved upmarket - reflected by strong second-hand values for the first generation car - and that many buyers like the idea of a greener family-size model rather than downsizing their car choice.

All engines have been carried over from the old car, but tweaked to cut CO2 emissions, fuel consumption and road tax.

The cabin is airy and well-arranged with excellent head and legroom front and back and the part leather seats of our Sport model were comfortable and supportive.

Interior materials feel more solid now, even if the 'alloy' grey plastic sometimes looks what it is rather than what it pretends to be.

The controls and dashboard are logical though, while the large saloon and hatchback boot and the estate's load space echo what went before.

Mazda's one-lever-does it all 'Karakuri' rear seat folding mechanism has also yet to be bettered - there's no messing about with seat belts and head rests to flatten the load floor.

• Email steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk



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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

UK's BEST-SELLING FAMILY HATCHBACKS carsforkent.co.uk

LOOKING for a car that does it all? Start shopping for a family hatchback; it seats five, can be crammed like a small van and represents a good balance of space, flexibility and economy... providing you don't go for the 'hot hatch' version. Family hatches dominate the UK top ten – all three of our recommendations are regulars – and the end product needs to be good to compete at all against talented opposition. Market clout helps, of course, but this trio deserves to be there on merit too – check out the profiles below...

FORD FOCUS



BRITAIN'S favourite car. Or is it? Some say it's number one through Ford's formidable market share. Fair point, but the Focus is also great to drive, practical, well-made and blessed with good engines. For second-hand buyers there is a fantastic choice of power – including the rapid ST – trim levels and body styles: a smart saloon and estate plus a coupé convertible. The car's popularity and ordinary looks are a weakness though and reason enough for some buyers to look elsewhere.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

VAUXHALL ASTRA



SUFFERS like the Focus from being a common sight, thanks to its lofty new car top-ten sales position. But nobody could accuse the Astra of being dreary looking; Renault Megane aside, it is the most sharply-styled family hatchback on sale. Vauxhall has also differentiated between the three-door model and the five-door workhorse. There is a longer wheelbase estate too. Engine options, including impressive Fiat-derived diesels, are some of the best in the business.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

VW GOLF



IT costs extra to get into a Golf, signalling the power of a more premium bonnet badge. Highly-regarded diesels also keep used prices up, while the GTI hot hatch lends glamour to the whole range. Interior quality and ambience is top-notch too and the driving experience is possibly best in class. That said, the Golf suffers from fairly dull styling and some buyers might be tempted by sexier and cheaper used rivals such as the Citroën C4 and Megane.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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0757 New Zafira 1.9Cdti (150) Auto Design Panoramic Roof**£15,995.00**
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0554 Vivaro 2.5Cdti Sportive Star Silver 55000mils**£6,995.00**
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0606 Ford Connect T230 Hallmark Air Con 10000mils**£10,995.00**
0656 Astravan 1.7 Sportive Star Silver 24000mils**£8,995.00**
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146 TI, 5 door, p 1996, a car that will one day become a collector's item. This car is a 2 owner from new with full service history mainly... a test drive is welcome as well as any inspection. px is available against this car. red, 94000 miles. £1495. Courtney Cars, Charing, Ashford, 01233 714848 (TRADE)

156, Ts 16v Turismo, g104vnd, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, radio, electric mirrors, 15" alloys, red, 54000 miles. £4499. Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

BMW

1 SERIES, 116i SE 5dr, 6327079, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, electric front windows, adjustable steering column, height adjustable seat, air conditioning, climate control, traction control, power steering, abs, front fog lamps, parking sensor, alloy wheels, silver, 75900 miles. £1995. Masters Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

CAPTIVA, LTZ 2.0, gk80rv, finished in denim blue with black interior, blue, 4000 miles. £22995. Calfyne Chevrolet T Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

LACETTI, SX 5dr, gk56zr, folding rear seats, height adjustable seat, head restraints, anti-theft system, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, power steering, air bag, multiple airbags, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, air conditioning, electric front windows, aluminium silver, 4000 miles. £B495. Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0203 303 4030 (TRADE)

CITROEN

CITROEN BERLINGO 800, 04 2005, 1.9d lx side door white pas 43,000 miles fxi lined, £4350. Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

CITROEN BERLINGO 800, 02 2005, 1.9 d lx side door white elec window white 49,000 miles fxi bulkhead lined, £4600. Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

XSARA 2.0 TDI ESTATE HDI, 2004 (54), 04 (54) Citroen xsara 2.0 turbo diesel hdi estate, stunning metallic cherry coachwork with charcoal trim, full service history, 2 former keepers, air con, a well looked after example. only £3995, metallic cherry red, only 84000 miles. £3995. Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

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500, Sport, g157crg, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, drivers airbag, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, tinted glass, traction control, trip computer, red, 3000 miles. £10495. Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

BRAVO, Dynamic, g107sxx, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, climate control, drivers airbag, electric windows, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, metallic paint, blue, 10000 miles. £3925. Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

KIA

CARENS, 2.0 CRDI LS (7 Seat) Diesel, 2007, alloy wheels body coloured bump electric sunroof front fog lights heated door mirrors radio/cd rear electric windows remote central locking reverse parking aid roof rails side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer, pure silver, 13110 miles. £11995. Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 CRDI SR (7 Seat) Diesel, 2008, insurance group 10 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electrolux mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd rear electric windows remote central locking roof rails side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment, grey, 14 miles. £13995. Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

CARENS, LX, 2004, 54 reg excellent condition new mot, full service history, recent service included new front discs and pads all round, two new tyres. one owner, me, reason for selling my wife has a new one, 2008 Kia carens and we don't need two cars as I am retiring, see Kia website for full model details. imperial blue, 70000 miles. £2950. 01795591866 (PRIVATE)

MAZDA

323, GT 5dr, v674dnu, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, stereo, 15" alloys, aluminium silver, 87000 miles. £2599. Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MX-5, 1.8i 2dr, 122463127, electric windows, abs, air bag, twin air bags, alarm, central locking, electric front windows, cd player, electric mirrors, immobiliser, remote central locking, radio, stereo, met grey, 9775 miles. £3250. AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

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106, Xn Zest 2 3dr, v322egc, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, stereo, red, 77000 miles. £1799. Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

PORSCHE

911 CARRERA 4, 2002, meridian silver with blue leather, 46000 miles. £29950. Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

911, CARRERA 4 S Tiptronic S, 2004/04, 2004/04 (26/7/04) leather bodied 4s tiptronic silver black leather high motorway miles pcm sat nav, silver, £31995, Kent, 01732780872 (PRIVATE)

RENAULT

CLIO, Campus 1.2 3dr, 50366218, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, folding rear seats, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, colour coded body, multiple airbags, abs, uk specification, uk supplied, mercury silver, 20323 miles. £5495. Lifestyle Renault, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446514 (TRADE)

CLIO, Campus Sport 16v 3dr, 50367218, immobiliser, remote central locking, alloy wheels, tempest blue, 6976 miles. £6295. Lifestyle Renault, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446514 (TRADE)

CLIO, Campus Sport 16v 3dr, hv06vkn, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, height adjustable seat, retractable headrests, sports seats, folding rear seats, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, front fog lamps, colour coded body, multiple airbags, abs, trip computer, power steering, adjustable steering column, electric windows, radio cassette, uk specification, uk supplied, alloy wheels, mercury silver, 16328 miles. £5995. Lifestyle Renault, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446514 (TRADE)

ROVER

400, 2.0 16v Si Hatchback 5d 1994cc, t 1999, remote central locking, electric mirrors, electric windows, srs airbag, radio cassette, air conditioning, 5 speed gearbox. metallic red, miles, £1995. Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

45, 1.8 CLUB, 2000 (x), 00 (x) cover 45 1.8 club, 4 door saloon, metallic navy blue coachwork with grey velour trim, only one former keeper, service history (with cam belt change), only 87000 miles, long mot, pas, ew, em, air bags, remote central locking/alarm, cd h-i, alloys etc. a well looked after example. a bargain at only £2495, navy blue, £2495. Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

45, 1.8 CLUB 5 DOOR HATCH, 2000 (x), 00 (x) cover 45 1.8 club, 4 door saloon, only one former keeper, service history (with cam belt change), only 87000 miles, long mot, pas, ew, em, air bags, only £2495 many more quality pre-owned cars for sale on: www.rivieracarsales.co.uk, metallic royal blue, £2495, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

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TRANSPORTER, bn56ycw, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, air bag, ply-lined, side load door, bulkhead, barn doors, dual passenger seat, cd player, white, 15000 miles. £10000. Clearways Commercial, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

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- 57 OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 1.9 TDI 105BHP SDR HATCH** BRILLIANT SILVER
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EX-DEMONSTRATION ROOMSTER

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- 08 ROOMSTER LEVEL 2 1.6 16V 105BHP SDR MPV** OLIVE GREEN
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PRICE TO YOU £10,490.00
- 08 ROOMSTER LEVEL 2 1.6 16V AUTO 105BHP SDR MPV** CAPPUCCINO BEIGE
COST NEW £13,560.00 SAVING £2,570.00
PRICE TO YOU £10,990.00
- 08 ROOMSTER LEVEL 2 1.4 TDI 80BHP SDR MPV** FLAMENCO RED
COST NEW £12,950.00 SAVING £2,360.00
PRICE TO YOU £10,590.00
- 08 ROOMSTER LEVEL 2 1.9 TDI 105BHP SDR MPV** CAPPUCCINO BEIGE
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Experience in the Unscheduled Care of Community Nursing environment is preferred but not essential. You will be an excellent organiser, enjoy working as part of a team, have good communication skills and a sound knowledge of Microsoft Office.

For further information and a role profile please visit our website.

Starting Salary: Equivalent to Band 6 of Agenda for Change (Depending on experience and qualifications)
Other Benefits: Fully expensed Company Car, 5% pension contribution after the probationary period.

Please send your CV with a covering letter supporting your application quoting ref: CA0808KOS to our HR department at the address on the left or by e-mail to: recruitment@adastra.com

Closing Date: 26th August 2008
Interviews: 24th and 25th September 2008



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Supply Lecturers required in the following areas:

Various hours available, salary range £17,816 – £25,545 pro rata per annum

Bookkeeping and Accounting

SH/BKA

The closing date for the above post is Thursday 21 August 2008 at 12 noon.

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer



Accounting Technicians

Starting salary £20,061, with progression through contribution related pay to £22,825 per annum (pro rata for part time or term time)

Full time, part time and term time considered
Clover House, Whitstable

An exciting opportunity to be part of the Trading & Contract Management Unit within CFE Finance has arisen with a number of vacancies for Accounting Technicians.

You will have good communication, organisational and IT skills to support schools via the provision of contracted financial support packages. You will be responsible for delivering a range of monitoring and budget planning support, as well as the annual closing of accounts and the provision of generic financial advice and guidance to both Kent and Medway schools.

A knowledge of SIMS FMS6 accounting package would be beneficial.

The ability to travel across a wide geographical area in a timely and flexible manner at various times of the day is also required.

Ref: CFE/08/0376

Closing date: Midday, 12th September 2008.

Interview date: w/c 29th September 2008.

Functional Skills Tutors

Starting salary £20,061, with progression through contribution related pay to £22,825 per annum
East and West Kent

KEY Training Services deliver an exciting range of innovative training programmes to people aged 14-upwards and is the largest work-based training provider in Kent.

As a Functional Skills Tutor your responsibilities will include the team teaching of effective and high quality Basic, Key Skills and Job Search training, across a range of ability groups.

You will have the opportunity to design and produce relevant training materials and to plan challenging and inspirational training. KEY are forward thinking in their approach to Key Skills/Skills for Life qualifications and delivery will take place in both formal and informal learning environments to both young people and adults.

Ideally, you will need to be qualified to either Literacy or Numeracy Level 4, with a teaching qualification or teaching experience. KEY provides excellent opportunities for professional and personal development.

You will be required to work at more than one training centre in the area in which you are based, so the ability to travel across a wide geographical area in a timely and flexible manner at various times of the day is essential.

This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau. Ref: CMY/08/0194

Closing date: Midday, 22nd August 2008.

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Royal School of Military Engineering (Chatham) Divisional Managers

Salary circa £50,000 + PRP

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Currently we are looking for three Divisional Managers to lead the following curriculum areas at the school:

- **Engineering Division** – Responsibility for the overall performance of the mechanical and engineering services faculties.
- **Construction Division** – Responsibility for the overall performance of the building and design faculties.
- **Professional Engineer Division** – Responsibility for the higher education courses to MSC in civil engineering and in electrical & mechanical engineering. This post carries a teaching commitment and the person appointed would need to be a chartered civil engineer.

Your role will be to work collaboratively with the military to ensure that the training provided for the soldiers is of the highest quality and meets the full requirements of the Ministry of Defence.

Ideally qualified to degree level or equivalent you will have significant management experience in training and development preferably within the fields of construction or engineering. Efficiency and organisational skills are critical as well as the ability to lead a large team of proficient instructors and trainers while building sound working relationships at all levels.

Applicants should be aware that the RSME is currently pursuing a partnering arrangement with the private sector organisation Holdfast as part of the Government Public Private Sector partner initiative. Mid-Kent College is part of the Holdfast Group and will have the responsibility for providing the training at the RSME when the contract is signed. Successful applicants will be employed by Mid-Kent College to work at the RSME.

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk

Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk
Telephone 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine)
Personnel Manager, Iain Johnston 01634 884601
Personnel Officer, Marie Cook 01634 884736

Informal enquiries are very welcome, please telephone:

Closing date Friday 15 August. Interviews will be held on Tuesday 2 September 2008



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Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunity employer

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.



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For further details, a job description and an application form, please contact the HR department on 01732 376511 or email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk

Closing date: 12noon Thursday 21 August 2008.



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International Manager 08/111

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £32,808 per annum

Head of Faculty Higher Education 08/112

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £40,821 per annum

Quality and Innovation Manager 08/113

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £36,365 per annum

Section Manager Dental, Nursing, Social Care & Counselling 06/110

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £32,808 per annum

Lecturer Teacher Education 08/114

7.4 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Supply Lecturers are required in the following areas:

Various hours available, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Public Services S/PS

Key Skills: Application of Number and ICT within Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care S/KS

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Performing Arts - to teach on vocational BTEC Diploma courses levels 1 - 3 S/PA

Theatre Production Arts - to teach: Scenic Design, Costume Design, Lighting Design, Stage Management, S/TP

HR Advisors 08/119

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 per annum

Pensions & Benefits Clerk 08/118

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £16,364 per annum

HR Administrator 08/121

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,535 per annum

International Administrator 08/115

18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum

Train to Gain Administrator 08/116

18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum

Project Co-ordinator - College Redevelopment 08/117

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 per annum

Supply Trainer Demonstrator with skills in one or more

Stage Craft techniques: Props, Set Construction, Stage Lighting and Sound S/TD

Various hours available, salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts is Thursday 21 August 2008 at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include:

■ Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme ■ Sports Hall and Gym

■ Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations ■ Generous Holiday Allowance

■ Close to City Centre ■ Staff Discount Scheme



Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer



These posts are offered at locations throughout Kent.

YISP Senior Project Co-ordinators Ref: CMY/o8/o185

Starting salary £26,159, with progression through

contribution related pay to £29,920 per annum

Temporary Contract until March 2011

YISP Project Co-ordinators Ref: CMY/o8/o186

Starting salary £22,825, with progression through

contribution related pay to £26,159 per annum

Temporary Contract until March 2011

YISP Project Worker Ref: CMY/o8/o187

Starting salary £18,288 with progression through

contribution related pay to £20,061 pro rata

0.5 FTE - Temporary Contract until March 2009

There has never been a more exciting time than now to join the county in keeping young people out of the youth justice system.

The Kent Youth Offending Service and partners are using a multi-agency approach to identify those young people most at risk of offending and anti-social behaviour. We're looking to recruit people to assess and intervene with the identified children and young people, aged 8-17 years, and their parents or carer, to reduce the risks of offending and anti-social behaviour.

You will need to be an excellent team player, able to work with a range of community agencies; have exceptional communication and negotiation skills; and be skilled in undertaking assessments of need. An understanding of why young people offend and what can be done to intervene is imperative. Creativity and flexibility are necessary qualities.

These posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

When applying please clearly indicate on your application form which location you would like to be considered for and if there is more than one please indicate your first preference.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs

Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

or call 0845 8247 904.

Please quote the relevant reference number.

Closing date: Midday, 14th August 2008.



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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Cruise along to this new travel exhibition

CRUISING is said to be the fastest growing sector in UK travel with more than 1.5 million UK residents expected to board a ship this year – more than double the number from 10 years ago.

Now there's the opportunity to discover possible benefits of this holiday option at the first ever Get Cruising Show.

It will take place in the Corn Exchange in The Pantiles in Tunbridge Wells on September 7 from 11am until 3pm. There will be 25 different cruise brands present.

With more cruises heading out of Dover next year more people are expected to choose the convenience of international travel from the South East coast.

UK tax breaks attract research businesses

BRITAIN is highly attractive for research and development activities according to a detailed study of tax costs in 35 cities in 10 countries around the world conducted by KPMG International.

Top of the table was the Netherlands, followed by Canada, with UK in third place. Brian Jackson, partner and head of tax at KPMG in Gatwick, which covers Kent, said: "It is very encouraging to see the UK ranked so much ahead of key European and global competitors."

"The R&D tax incentives available to businesses in this country are indeed very attractive."

Open your in-box to customers' messages

SMALL businesses can allow their customers to text message them thanks to a useful piece of technology.

SMS messages sent to local numbers can be converted into emails and sent directly into the in-box of the business.

Previously, inbound text messaging services were the preserve of large companies, says software developers FAB Enterprises & Innovations.

It is offering to register local numbers to allow messages to be converted. For more details visit www.fabit.com.

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Expert advice on the credit crunch. See the business channel

Unlock your potential with finance scheme

A VITAL financial resource for small firms is being overlooked, according to a recent report.

Two out of every three UK accountants say the Small Firms Loan Guarantee Scheme is an attractive form of finance for business clients – but clients don't use it enough, according to an independent study.

In fact, the problem is not confined to just the clients says Venture Finance, which has an office in Canterbury – on a regional basis, half of accountants surveyed throughout London and the South were actually unaware of the scheme.

The scheme provides guarantees against loans of up to £250,000 for companies with minimal business assets or a lack of security, making it a vital resource for many businesses. In April the Government announced major changes to the rules.

It made the scheme open to many more businesses by increasing the turnover level up to £5.6 million, with Chancellor Alastair Darling also announcing a 60 per cent increase in scheme funding.

Despite these changes which should work to the benefit of UK businesses, it seems that there is a still a huge number unaware of it, suggesting that there is still has a lot of work to let people it's available.

Tim Bourner, business development manager of Venture Finance in Canterbury, said: "As the first independent invoice financier to be authorised as a lender of the scheme, we have witnessed first hand the positive impact this injection of funds can have on a company."

"Given the benefits it can give, and the recent improvements that have been introduced, it's disappointing that so many still don't know about it."

"Nearly a fifth of the accountants we spoke to are already recommending the scheme and it would be great to see this figure grow."

"As one of the key sources of financial advice to businesses there is a real opportunity for accountants to play an important role in providing unbiased guidance on funding options and support throughout

■ BY TONY PATEY

the scheme application process."

Venture Finance is an award-winning invoice financier, which has helped thousands of clients across the UK, from start-ups to businesses in the £200m turnover bracket.

Basically, the scheme is for small to medium-sized enterprises, which need funds but can't get a conventional loan because they don't have assets to offer as security.

The Small Firms Loan Guarantee provides lenders with a government guarantee against default in certain circumstances.

The scheme is a joint venture between the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform and a number of participating lenders.



SECURITY: Loan Guarantee Scheme is another way to raise cash

DEMELZA'S

10th Birthday Party

Thursday 25th September 2008
at Priestfields, Gillingham FC

This year, Demelza Hospice Care for Children celebrates its 10th Birthday. As part of our celebrations, we are holding a special Birthday Party which promises to be full of fun, surprises and special guests!

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Twenty20 World Cup perfect showcase for ladies

Picture: ADY KERRY



WAY FORWARD: Edwards feels Twenty20 cricket will help the women's game grow

KENT and England captain Charlotte Edwards believes the global success of Twenty20 cricket can help increase the profile of the women's game and encourage more girls into the sport.

The 28-year-old, who has led England to back-to-back Ashes victories, will captain her side in the inaugural women's Twenty20 World Cup next summer, with the final played before the men's showcase at Lord's.

If they could reach the final it would, according to Edwards, allow the England players to showcase their skills in front of millions of fans.

She said: "It is a dream come true for us really as it is a great time to

CRICKET

■ BY GLENN PEARSON

showcase the women's game on a global scale. We are excited to think that maybe we could get to a semi-final and then the final and play before the men's game, it would be a great occasion for everyone.

"We have a lot to play for before then, but ultimately that is what we are all playing towards."

"Twenty20 has really caught on and it is the question I am asked most about at the moment, along with the Indian Premier League.

"Hopefully they will have a women's IPL so I won't have to worry about money for the rest of my life, but it is exciting times in cricket at the moment for men and women."

"Next year with the Twenty20 World Cup being here is brilliant and hopefully that money will come streaming in."

The England team, which also includes Kent players Lydia Greenway and Lynsey Askew, comprehensively won the first of five One-Day Internationals against South Africa at the St Lawrence Ground on Wednesday. Edwards took 2-10 to help put England 2-0 up in the series as South Africa were thrashed by 225 runs at Lord's on Friday.

England youth lose battle with weather

RAIN disrupted both England under-19 internationals against New Zealand played at the St Lawrence Ground in Canterbury.

The hosts got off to a good start in the best-of-five match series, winning the first match by six wickets on Friday.

The players went off three times for rain and once for bad light, but captain Tom Westley hit an unbeaten 46 to see England home with seven balls to spare.

In the second game a day later only 44 overs were possible, with England on 231-8 when play was washed out.

James Goodman, the only Kent youngster in the 14-man squad, missed out on selection for both matches.

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England cricket captain Charlotte Edwards talks about the impact of Twenty20

ECB's sticky wicket

KENT captain Rob Key has criticised the England and Wales Cricket Board's pitch panel system after they took no action against Durham on Friday.

The rain affected County Championship match finished early on the third day, with 40 wickets falling for just 465 runs.

The ECB convened a pitch panel to inspect the wicket, but after interviewing the umpires and both captains they decided to take no action.

Key said: "I don't expect [the ECB] to change their decision."

"I expect them to hopefully learn from it, I don't think this panel is the way forward."

PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk



Picture: IOR KIRCO

DAY OF DESTINY: Kent have not contested a Lord's final since 1998 and captain Rob Key (above) is hoping for victory in Saturday's game against rivals Essex

Key knows importance of place in Lord's final

CRICKET

■ BY DAVID PRITCHARD

KENT will attempt to put the disappointment of last month's Twenty20 finals defeat behind them when they contest their first Lord's final in 11 years on Saturday.

The Spitfires play Essex Eagles at the home of cricket for the 50-over Friends Provident Trophy.

It is the first time Kent have contested a Lord's final since losing to Surrey in the 1998 Benson & Hedges Cup.

It will also be the first time captain Rob Key has played in a Lord's final after 10 years at Kent and he believes the long wait heightens the importance for the county.

He said: "I think it does mean more. The first time around you don't quite know what to expect. We would rather get on with the game but you have quite a lot of build-up."

"Along with the Twenty20 finals day it's the biggest day of the year. I don't think many of our side have played in a Lord's final, it's quite a special time."

The prospect of making the final seemed dis-

tant at the beginning of the competition as Kent lost their first two matches in the group stage.

Even qualifying for the quarter-finals looked unlikely at that stage, but Key's side reeled off five successive wins to take them through to the last eight.

Confidence

The Spitfires skipper picked out Justin Kemp's 68 from 79 balls against Sussex as the turning point which began their charge to the final.

He said: "We didn't know what was going on at the start, on paper we knew we were a good side so it was a bit worrying."

"I think Justin Kemp's innings against Sussex, which got us home for our first win, was a big moment and then we went straight to the Oval and beat Surrey, that's when we started to believe how good we were."

"No matter how good the team is you do lose confidence with defeats, but Justin turned it round pretty quickly for us."

Tight bowling at the death saw Kent past Somerset at Beckenham to reach the last four.

Martin van Jaarsveld, who has been in terrific form this season, helped Kent dominate the semi-final at Durham. The South African hit 122 not out as the defending champions were comfortably beaten by 84 runs.

Saturday's game will be the sixth time Kent have met Essex this season. The Spitfires have the edge with three wins to two, but the final is predicted to be a close affair.

They last met at the Rose Bowl on Twenty20 finals day last month, with Kent winning by 14 runs.

Demand for tickets at the St Lawrence Ground was high when they went on sale last month, with the Spitfires applying for an extra allocation after selling the initial batch of 4,000.

• For all the latest from Lord's, log on to www.kentnews.co.uk on Saturday.

• Email sports@kosmedia.co.uk

Stuttering Gills gain point in injury time

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Bournemouth 1 Gillingham 1

GILLINGHAM manager Mark Stimson admits he would be disappointed if his side could not bounce straight back into League One at the end of the season.

Bookmakers have made the club one of the favourites for the League Two title after relegation last season.

Stimson felt it was too early to be drawn on predictions for the campaign, but he is confident Gills can be in contention.

He said: "Like ten or 12 others we want to be in amongst it. We know it's a difficult league, but we have got to go and be professional every game. Looking at the squad we have got there's no reason why we can't be up there and that's our aim."

"Promotion's not a must, but it's something we want to achieve."

"If we didn't we would all be disappointed, but it's such a long season with so many twists and turns you just don't know."

Gills had Gary Mulligan to thank for avoiding defeat in their opening league match at Bournemouth on Saturday.

New strike partnership Simeon Jackson and Mark McCammon combined well up front, but despite creating plenty of chances on the south coast the visitors trailed at the break due to



Pictures KEITH SLATER

SUPER SUB: Striker Gary Mulligan earned Gills a point in their first league match of the season against Bournemouth

Darren Anderton's 42nd-minute strike.

Gills' away record has been poor for several seasons and they looked to be heading for another defeat as more chances came and went.

Debutant

Stimson threw everyone forward in search of an equaliser, bringing Mulligan on for Adam Miller with three minutes to go.

In injury time the Irish striker, who was looking to leave Priestfield during the summer, latched on to debutant Tyrone Berry's cross and fired home to earn a point.

Gills were in Carling Cup action last night at home to Colchester United.

• Log on to www.yourmedway.co.uk for a report and reaction from the game.

• Email sport@kosmedia.co.uk

Binks looking forward to a better campaign

FOOTBALL

CHATHAM Town manager Steve Binks believes his side are good enough to make the play-offs once the league season begins this weekend.

The Chats endured a listless campaign last season, finishing 18th in Ryman Division One South. Restructuring of the leagues means Town will play in Ryman Division One North this season, which is considered to be the weaker of the two divisions.

Binks has added strength in depth during the summer break and is confident of competing at the sharp end this season.

He said: "I think with the quality we have got we are capable of being a top-eight side and looking at the play-offs."

"I would be disappointed if we are not there or thereabouts at the end of the season."

"We have some young players, but a lot of them have two or three years' experience at this level. I think we are ready to challenge."

Town finished their pre-season fixtures with a 2-1 defeat at home to Hastings United last Saturday.



Pictures ADRIAN LINE

NEW BOYS: Ashley Proberts and Brad Potter (right) have strengthened Town's squad

Steve Hafner's strike put them deservedly ahead at the break, but the visitors from the Ryman Premier dominated the second half to come out on top.

The team's pre-season results have been mixed but they have not diminished Binks' hopes.

He said: "I'm absolutely championing at the bit to get started. I don't think I have ever looked forward to the start of a new season more than this because of the quality we have got in the squad."

Chats begin the season on Saturday at home to Ilford Town.

Women gain promotion after third-place finish

ATHLETICS

MEDWAY and Maidstone Athletics Club's women will be competing against nationally-renowned clubs including Belgrave Harriers next season after securing promotion.

The team finished third in the final fixture of the UK Women's League at Ashford's Julie Rose stadium, which was enough to guarantee their passage from Division Four.

Team manager Dawn Copping, who only took over the role this season, was delighted with the whole team.

Valuable

She said: "I'm very excited, it was such a good all-round team performance. I couldn't pick one person out."

"Lots of people did multiple events to get the points."

"We won the second league fixture which was a real thrill. We knew then we were in a good position for promotion."

The eight-team league is the most important senior competition for the club, who have spent five years in Division Four.

No one in the 16-strong team



Pictures ANDY MAY

ON THE UP: Ladies from M&M missed out on winning Division Four by one point

finished lower than fifth at Ashford. Lucy Underdown, who won the English Schools discus last month, continued her great form with valuable victories in the discus and shot.

Arguably the performance of the meeting came from Kim Heffernan, who came out of retirement to replace the injured Maria Crowe in the 400m hurdles and sweep to victory.

The other M&M winners on the day were Vicky Randall in the sprint hurdles and Sophie Copping in the long jump.

The team missed out on the overall title by a single point to Bedford, but were promoted as runners-up.

LISA DOBRISKEY'S
OLYMPIC
Diary

Beijing 2008
Middle distance runner Lisa Dobriskey is competing in the Olympic 1500m later this month. Throughout the next fortnight the Ashford-born athlete will be sending exclusive regular updates from Team GB...

Friday, August 8

THINGS are starting to brighten up in every sense of the word. The weather has improved after yesterday's typhoon, I slept well last night and today is my rest day and the start of the Games.

My coach arrived here yesterday and I've spent most of the day with him. It does feel strange knowing the Olympics are almost starting and I'm not going to be there for another week.

Saturday, August 9

I HAD my final big track session this morning and I'm pleased to say it went really well. The weather has picked up now and it was 40 degrees on the track and very humid so perfect preparation for Beijing.

We watched the opening ceremony here last night and it was strange seeing everything start and still being so far away.

The hotel staff made a huge cake to share with all those left behind so we had a little party of our own. It was exciting seeing it all and knowing I'll be there soon, although it's also a bit nerve-wracking.

I've been out into the centre of Macau this afternoon to try and stay in the heat and humidity to acclimatise.

It was nice to have a look around, as although I compete and train in lots of places I rarely see anything other than the hotel and the track.

Sunday, August 10

I HAD a long run this morning which went well although I struggled with the humidity slightly and the heat was quite energy sapping. I have had physio and a massage this afternoon and the rest of the day has been spent relaxing by reading and watching the Olympics on TV.

A lot of the team leave for Beijing tomorrow morning and my roommate leaves on Tuesday, so I imagine things will start to feel a bit lonely.

I'm training twice tomorrow so have got a slightly more eventful day to look forward to.

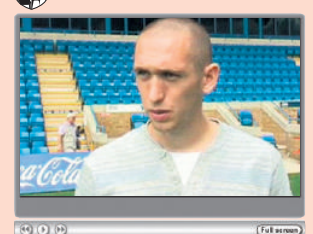
Lisa x

• If you would like to leave Lisa a good luck message during the Olympics, email sports@kosmedia.co.uk.

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Gills Andrew Crofts and John Nutter on their hopes for the new season

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Sunday	10am – 4pm

August Bank Holiday Monday 10am – 5pm

M&S and Sainsbury's have extended opening hours, see online, in store or call 01634 387076 for detailed opening times.



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Research at Greenwich

Here is a taste of what we are up to:

- A potential treatment for multiple sclerosis developed by the University of Greenwich in association with Kings College London has begun clinical trials.
- The university has won its third Queen's Anniversary Prize, for its participation on Tabeisa, an innovative project to reduce poverty in Africa.
- The health of pregnant women and people suffering from HIV and malnutrition in the developing world could be improved by a project to develop low-cost, nutritious foods.
- An initiative led by the University of Greenwich's Natural Resources Institute in close partnership with organisations in five African aims to boost the incomes of small-scale African farmers by linking them to new markets.
- Scientists at the university are playing a key role in a £28 million project with the European Space Agency to develop the metals of the future.
- The award Winning Carbon8 (a spin-out company for the university's School of Science) has developed an elegant and green way to deal with contaminated land and industrial waste.



Student finance

Your time at university should be enjoyable and rewarding, and it is important that it is not spoilt by unnecessary financial worries.

The great thing to remember about student loans is that you don't have to pay anything back until you have left university and are earning over £15,000 a year. For example, someone earning £20,000 a year would only pay back £8.65 a week.

In addition to government-funded loans, student may also be eligible for certain bursaries, scholarships and funds offered by the university.

To find out more, log on to www.gre.ac.uk/finance

Freshers' Week

This is the best opportunity to meet new people and is always an exhilarating week, jam packed full of activities and events for all students.



Throughout the week there are exciting daytime activities, as well as various themed events in Students' Union bars in the evenings. Some of our previous daytime activities have included bowling, go-karting, boat trips, pitch and putt and barbecues, while night-time events have consisted of pub quizzes, karaoke and school discos – so don't forget to bring your old uniform!

There is also a Freshers' Fair where all of our sports teams and societies, as well as various student-friendly businesses, welcome the new freshers' to university life. Freshers' Week ends with the Freshers' Ball, so students see out the week in style!

Student profiles



"The Medway Campus has a great community feel and a really friendly atmosphere. My programme has taught me specific skills, such as essay writing, which have prepared me for next year."

Ruby Aidoo • Foundation Year, BSc Hons Science (Extended)

"The specialised programme options and attractive location made Greenwich a natural choice for me. The best thing about the university is the inspiring setting and being surrounded by history."

Guile Fortune Ballou • Final Year, BA Hons International Business



"The support network here on campus is one of the best things about the university. My tutors are very approachable and the library staff are always helpful."

Liam Smyth • Year 2, BA Hons English and Creative Writing

"I came to the University of Greenwich because of its reputation. The best thing about my programme is that it's really hands-on and the staff are very approachable: I can pop in to see them anytime."

Hussain Ismail • Year 3, MPharm Pharmacy



"The best thing about the university is meeting people from all different cultures. The Students' Union puts on student nights, which are great for getting to know new people."

Gokhan Cemal • Year 1, BA Hons Business Management

"I am part of the American Football team at the Avery Hill Campus. I really enjoyed the Freshers' Fair in my first week. It showed me all the clubs and societies on offer."

Imeru Spence • Year 1, BA Hons Childhood Studies

Subject areas by Campus

Subjects	Greenwich	Avery Hill	Medway
Accounting and Finance	✓		
Agriculture and Food Sciences			✓
Architecture and Construction	✓	✓	
Art and Design	✓	✓	
Business – General	✓		✓
Business – Human Resources	✓		
Business – International	✓		
Business – Management			✓
Chemistry			✓
Computing – General	✓		✓
Computing – Information Technology	✓		✓
Computing – Internet	✓		✓
Computing – Networking and Systems	✓		✓
Computing and Mathematical Sciences	✓		
Continuing Professional Development	✓	✓	✓
Criminology	✓	✓	
Development Studies			✓
Drama and Performing Arts	✓		
Environmental Science			✓
Economics	✓		
Education – General		✓	
Education – Primary		✓	
Education – Secondary		✓	
Engineering – Civil			✓
Engineering – Electrical and Electronic			✓
Engineering – General			✓
Engineering – Mechanical			✓
English	✓		
Events Management	✓		
Geography			✓
Health – General	✓	✓	
Health – Nursing and Midwifery		✓	
Health – Social Care		✓	
Health – Therapies		✓	
Health and Safety		✓	
History	✓		
Landscape and Gardens		✓	
Language and Culture	✓		
Law	✓		
Maritime Studies	✓		
Marketing	✓		
Mathematics and Statistics	✓		
Media	✓		
Multimedia	✓	✓	✓
Nutrition			✓
Pharmacy			✓
Philosophy	✓		
Politics	✓		
Psychology and Counselling		✓	
Public Relations	✓		
Science – Biomedical			✓
Science – Biosciences			✓
Science – General			✓
Science – Pharmaceutical			✓
Sociology	✓		
Sports – General		✓	✓
Sports – Science			✓
Tourism	✓		
Youth and Community		✓	✓

Where are we?

The University of Greenwich offers a wonderful environment in which to study and live. The university is spread across three campuses.

Medway Campus is located in Chatham Maritime, Kent. The Campus is only a short walk from the town centres of Chatham and Gillingham and a just a 45 minute train journey away from the centre of London.

Greenwich Campus is situated on a World Heritage Site on the banks of the River Thames. The campus is a short walk away from the local railway stations and Greenwich Park.

Avery Hill Campus is situated in Eltham, south-east London. The campus has two sites, a few minutes' walk apart and is set in the 86-acre Avery Hill Park.

The university provides a coach service that operates between all three campuses.

